The Middlebury Campus

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TRUMP VICTORY ROILS CAMPUS

Students React to a New Reality with Confusion, Anger and Motivation

MICHAEL O'HARA

About 200 students protested the election of Donald J. Trump on Sunday, marching around campus to chants of "Not my president" and "Love trumps hate."

By Alex Newhouse and Eliza Teach
Features & News Editors

News of Donald J. Trump's election as the nation's 45th president sent waves of shock and uncertainty throughout campus, prompting students to stage protests against the president-elect and discussions of what the next four years will bring.

For many, election night was a surprising and ultimately devastating display of the American electoral system at work. The long election season culminated in a packed Crossroads Café Tuesday night Nov. 8. When, at 7 p.m., Vermont projected to go for Hillary Clinton, the group of mostly liberal-leaning students cheered loudly, proud of the state for being the first in the country to vote for Clinton.

Most students felt optimistic at this point, and Crossroads had a celebratory feel. People chatted with friends and shouted happily when early states were projected for Clinton. For some students, a Clinton victory was all but inevitable.

"I'm very confident in a Hillary victory; I'm just curious to see how much America will go for Trump," James Callison '17.5 said early in the night. "The only thing I am concerned about, however, is the Senate election. I'm worried it's going to go 51-49 Republicans."

Others did not share Callison's certainty, but nonetheless felt that Clinton would most likely end up pulling through.

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HATE SPEECH INCIDENTS CONFIRMED

By Henry Burnett
Features Editor

Several incidents of bias and hate rhetoric have been reported to administration following the Nov. 8 presidential election, two administrators confirmed to the *Campus* in an interview on Monday, Nov. 14.

The College's Community Bias Response Team sent an initial email to students, faculty and staff on Nov. 10 that said "messages of intolerance are being written and spoken on campus since the election" without details of specific acts.

Katy Smith Abbott, dean of the College, and Miguel Fernandez, chief diversity officer, were the two members of the response team who confirmed the incidents.

Since that email, which did not specify what the messages said, rumors have circulated on campus as to the nature of the messages. Smith Abbott confirmed that one student returned to her dorm room to find "F**k Muslims #Trump2016" written on her door's whiteboard. That student requested full anonymity when she reported the incident, which is the primary reason why the CBRT email was so vague.

"The bias response team addresses things to the community when it feels it's needed," Fernandez said. "In this case, some didn't want to wait for the investigation, yet at the same time [felt] a need

SEE HATE SPEECH, PAGE 2

New Charges in Sexual Assault Case

Detective Provides Details in Affidavit

By Alessandria Schumacher
Local Editor

On Tuesday, Nov. 15, Nam Vu Bui, a 31-year-old man from Houston, Texas, was ordered to be held without bail at the Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility.

On Wednesday, Bui went before the Addison County District Court for a weight of evidence hearing, in which the judge would look at all evidence and determine whether Bui should be kept with or without bail. However, the ruling was not yet decided at the time of publication.

As the college community learned via emails from Public Safety on Oct. 18 and 19, Bui, an unregistered guest of a Middlebury College student, was arrested by the Middlebury Police Department and charged with sexual assault and voyeurism on Oct. 19. The event transpired on the evening of Monday, Oct. 17 in a College dorm room where Bui claimed to be conducting a medical experiment.

On Tuesday, Nov. 8, Middlebury police expanded their charges against Bui for a total of 10 charges, including illegal practice of medicine and possession of child pornography. Following these additional charges, Addison County Superior Court Judge John W. Valente ordered that Bui be held without bail, not contact the six women on the witness list and have restricted access to the Internet.

Middlebury Police Detective Kris Bowdish revealed further information on the case to the Addison Independent on Nov. 10.

According to Bowdish, Bui was dating a female Middlebury College student who was under the impression that he was a radiation oncologist and fellow at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center.

SEE DETAILS, PAGE 3

SGA Proposes New Student-Led Zone for Self-Expression

By Ally Murphy
Staff Writer

On Nov. 14, the Student Government Association (SGA) passed two resolutions supporting the creation of a space for two flag poles and a space for student-facilitated self-expression. These resolutions will now undergo administrative review before any further action is taken.

In the first bill, the SGA called on the College to "support and sponsor two flag poles (constructing one outside of McCullough, and designating one of the three preexisting poles outside of the Athletic Center) as 'Student Initiative Poles.'"

This resolution regarding space for flag poles is a continuation of the resolution that was passed last month by the SGA in partnership with the Black Student Union (BSU), and then passed by the Senior Leadership Group, that called on the College to raise a flag or banner in support of the Black Lives Matter movement.

The resolution outlined the process of receiving approval for a flag. According to the bill, each student or organization that wishes to sponsor and fly a flag must submit an explanation of the significance and relevance of the flag to the SGA Director of Institutional Affairs. In addition, the student or organization must receive 100 student signatures to be considered. As outlined by the resolution, the maximum time a flag may be hung is one semester. President of the SGA Karina Toy '17 explained how she hopes the student initiative poles would promote discussion throughout campus. "[In order to be able to hang a flag], you would need to get fellow students to sign your proposal. So that is already starting a dialogue," she said.

Each flag proposal will be considered by SGA senators at their

SEE ZONE, PAGE 2

TEDX CONFERENCE DISCUSSES "THE GAME"

JOSE TORRES

After each speaker's talk, the audience was allotted time for reflection and comments. See page 14 for more about TEDxMiddlebury.

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATE

By John Gosselin
Community Council Correspondent

At the Nov. 1 meeting of Community Council, Co-Chair Abbott started the meeting by introducing Russell Tolas, the elected representative from the Staff Council, and by approving the minutes from the meeting on Oct. 25.

Miguel Fernandez, the College's chief diversity officer, and Andi Lloyd, vice president for academic affairs, then made a presentation concerning new faculty recruitment. They explained how the College has had difficulties in the past in recruiting faculty of color, especially for tenure track positions. Fernandez then elaborated that different departments hire differently and that his office had had some success in making the different departments aware of the importance of diversity issues in their hiring practices. He also mentioned that his office has helped to facilitate a firm to host workshops concerning these issues, which helped to change the intra-department dialogue concerning new hiring.

After the presentation, Karl Lindholm, emeritus dean of advising and assistant professor of American studies, discussed with Community Council members the history of the organization, with which he was involved in his time at the College.

As part of the meeting's update from the Student Government Association (SGA), SGA President Karina Toy '17 mentioned that the SGA had passed a bill to provide free tampons during winter term and said that the SGA will reconsider the project after this trial period.

At the Nov. 8 meeting, Greg Buckles, dean of admissions, Manuel Carballo, director of admissions, and Nicole Curvin, associate director of admissions, came to the meeting to clarify reporting statistics concerning minority enrollment, especially statistics of students admitted in Feburary.

Mr. Buckles said that the reason why enrollment statistics do not include incoming Feb students is that the federal government requires that student statistics be reported in October, when the incoming Febs are not on campus. The statistics reported are wholly inclusive, but only for people on campus, not students studying abroad or incoming Febs. He also added that the admissions office had focused on increasing diversity in its Feb admits and that he had tried to make a Feb admit a voluntary action.

Assistant Director of Student Organizations & Orientation Roman Christiaens asked whether admissions' interest in selling Middlebury to students led to any transparency issues. Curvin replied that Middlebury's unique assets and reputation means that it does not need to oversell itself to potential students.

When asked about the places where Middlebury visits for admissions, Buckles noted that in a given year, his team visits roughly 800 schools — 354 public, 283 independent, 91 religious and 30 charter schools — which reflects the makeup of the student body.

Another issue, brought up by Charles Rainey '19, was that the student profile on the College website does not show the breakdown of minority students by race, but instead shows students of color as one group.

Reid Manheim '17 asked whether the number of students of color had increased over the past 10 to 15 years. Buckles replied that the numbers had increased, to about 24 percent this year from 18 percent 10 years ago. He added that the U.S. Census puts the proportion of people of color in the country at 32 percent.

Hate Speech Incidents Shock Campus

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to get something out to say something happened. Because the individual did not want to be identified or have anything identify who it was — even location — that's why the Community Bias Response Team wasn't as specific as some people would have liked."

Fernandez said he had heard frustrations from both students and faculty about the nature of the community email.

"The reason was predominantly to protect the student," he said.

In addition to the episode on the student's white board, the Hillel Jewish student group forwarded to its members an email from Rabbi Ira Schiffer on Tuesday, Nov. 15 after the discovery of a swastika on the door of the Havurah Jewish congregation in the town of Middlebury.

Schiffer called on students to support one another and not stand by if they witness acts of hate.

"We all need to be concerned and aware that when one minority group is targeted in America, all minority groups are vulnerable, and we need to stand together in mutual support and solidarity," he said in the email. "Please stand up against bigotry and hate whenever and wherever you see it."

Smith Abbott said other incidents have been reported to administration in addition to the white board message, however "some of them are so recent that I can't even comment on them. I hesitate to comment before things are even verified," she said.

She added that although the administration aims to treat every incident report quickly and seriously, certain institutional procedures can prevent the College from notifying the community right away when bias or hate speech occur on campus.

"If students are talking about something but none of us have a report of it, either through a Commons Dean or a Residential Life staff member or something, (a) we can't act on it, and (b) we don't have any accurate assessment of whether that particular incident has occurred in the way it's being described. That doesn't mean that we don't take it very seriously," she said.

Considering the institutional requirements the College faces when addressing reports of bias, Smith Abbott, like Schiffer, called on students to take responsibility for the campus and address hate or bias when they see it happen.

"I think the administration has an important role to play when students bring serious, distressing complaints to us. And we will take action in the appropriate way given whatever the complaint might be," Smith Abbott said.

She added: "I feel like we're also in a moment where students have a unique ability and the most impact in terms of determining what the campus ethos is going to feel like, how all students are going to be made to feel as though they are safe here, that their voice matters here, that they belong here. I hope that we can push on that ownership in responsibility as much as we're pushing on the administration."

'It's Not What You Think' Series Discusses Loss

By Kyle Naughton
Contributing Writer

On Nov. 10, Associate Professor of Economics Caitlin Myers delivered a talk as a part of the *It's Not What You Think* storytelling series. Her account of resilience in the face of loss marked the first *It's Not What You Think* event of the 2016-2017 academic year.

Sponsored by the offices of the vice president for academic affairs and the vice president for student affairs, the *It's Not What You Think* series launched in January 2016. The program began as a new initiative to cultivate a therapeutic space of reflection within the Middlebury community. This series offers professors and students newfound opportunities to connect with each other, exchange unique perspectives and cope with the various stresses. Each event begins with a featured storyteller, followed by an open discussion.

Myers' story focused on the unexpected loss of her husband in 2011 and how she has dealt with such tragedy. The talk was moderated by Eliza Renner '18, who provided guiding questions for Myers.

"I knew that it would be emotionally difficult for me to give this talk," Myers said, "but I felt like [the *It's Not What You Think* series] is a really great initiative, and I wanted to support it. I think it was also particularly difficult in the context of this week's shocking election result, where so many people are feeling the weight of national politics."

When asked about her preparation prior to the speech, Myers said, "I didn't need to prepare for this talk in particular; I've been telling myself this story for a long time. This was something that has shaped and defined my life in such a fundamental way. [Storytelling] is how we as people deal [with tragedy]."

Myers credited her family along with the College and the surrounding town for supporting her after this painful loss.

"Our family, friends and community supported us in ways I had never experienced or expected," Myers said. "Colleagues brought meals, members of the fire department helped with home repairs and my older son's preschool teachers came to visit to help plan his return to school. I walked away from the [tragedy] alone and with a deep, visceral sense of life's fragility. But I walked — maybe 'fell' — into the arms of my family and community."

Myers' story was met with positive reception by audience members.

"I thought Professor Myers' talk was incredibly beautiful," Charlotte Frankel '18 said. "It helped me remember how precious life truly is. We need to live to our fullest potential because anything can happen at any moment."

Previous storytellers for this series include alumni such as Maya Doig-Acuna '16.5 and Brandon Hawkins '11 as well as professors such as Assistant Professor of Dance Christal Brown and Associate Professor of Political Science Jessica Teets.

ZONE FOR FLAGS AND EXPRESSION PASSED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

weekly meetings and would be approved or denied by a simple majority. If a flag is not approved, the SGA will provide an explanation within 24 hours. The resolution also sets up an appeal process for denied flags, in which a student can obtain 200 signatures to be reconsidered.

"Some of the flags might be simple, but other things could be more political and create more dialogue," said Toy.

The second bill, titled Midd Speaks Creative Spaces Resolution, is a response to the call of action that was outlined in a campus-wide email on Nov. 8. Signed by Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott, Dean of the Faculty Andi Lloyd and Chief Diversity Officer Miguel Fernandez, the email noted that there currently exists no public space at the College for "self-expression, advocacy or promotion of events and causes." They continued in the email, "We believe Middlebury College would benefit from such a space. To that end, we have asked the SGA and Community Council for one or more proposals. That will be a helpful starting point for this important step for our community."

In the SGA meetings following this email, SGA senators developed the language and processes of the requested resolutions. This second bill proposes the College should "support the creation of an interactive space inside and outside of McCullough," named "Midd Speaks." According to the bill, "the purpose of Midd Speaks is to provide a physical space in which community members will be encouraged to express themselves individually and/or collectively."

Midd Speaks is made up of three parts. In addition to the student initiative pole, the resolution proposes that the mail room wall should be "designated as an open poster-art space and a book shelf for zine swaps and knickknacks." There will also be an ADA accessible wall made outside of McCullough for students to express themselves through temporary artistic mediums." According to Toy, this space will act as "a place where you can paint, draw and do whatever."

The SGA Director of Institutional Affairs will be responsible for maintaining the Midd Speaks creative space. Furthermore, the SGA will provide all supplies for this initiative.

The first resolution regarding the flag pole passed with 15 in favor and 2 opposed. The second resolution regarding the Midd Speaks creative space passed unanimously with the exception of two abstentions.

The amendments to the bylaws are conditional on the administration implementing the SGA's recommendations.

SGA Creates New Fund for Winter Term Workshops

By Will DiGravio
News Editor

The Student Government Association (SGA) unanimously passed a resolution at their Nov. 6 meeting to create a $2,500 winter term workshop fund for the 2017 academic year.

It is the goal of the SGA to help eliminate the financial barrier some students face when trying to enroll in winter term workshops. The fund will be used to create grants that will be made available to students who have demonstrated financial need.

Upon the completion of a short application, students whose estimated family contribution is between $0 and $12,000 (roughly 15% of the student body) will be eligible to receive a grant. Grant funds can only be applied towards one workshop and will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Student Financial Services and the Student Activities Office will work together to verify the financial need of students and allocate funds. Members of the SGA will not see the names of those who apply for receive aid.

SGA President Karina Toy '17, who sponsored the bill, campaigned for SGA president on a promise to create a winter term workshop fund. Toy said she first learned of this problem as a first-year, when the cost of several workshops were too high for her to participate.

"When I started thinking about things to run on last year, I [said] that's one thing that would be fairly easy for SGA to do," Toy said. "And it's more along the lines of what we want to do in terms of inclusivity and diversity, and making sure that everyone has the same opportunities once they get to Middlebury, as much as possible."

Toy said that she will be adding the winter term workshop fund to the SGA budget, which will make the grants a line item that the SGA funds yearly. This will require approval from both the SGA Finance Committee and Senate when the budget is drafted and approved at the end of the academic year.

Grant applications went live on Nov. 16 and will be accepted through Nov. 20. Applicants who receive a grant will be notified by 8 p.m. on Nov. 26. Both the application and additional information can be found at go/grant.

Details Released on Sexual Assault Case, Weight of Evidence Hearing in Middlebury Court Yesterday

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The student told Bowdish that she believed Bui was working at the hospital during the week and sometimes on the weekend. She had met Bui four years ago when she was in high school.

In the investigation process, the woman pressing charges told Bowdish that she, Bui and some friends had gone to Burlington on Oct. 17 and on the drive back, Bui had talked with the women about medical research he was doing about a "preventative test for HPV."

"He was looking for participants who did not have a Gardasil shot, which is the HPV vaccine," reads Bowdish's affidavit.

The student told her that Bui had promised $500 to $1,000 to any women who would undergo the test, which would involve a pelvic exam and collecting mucus for analysis in the lab. She said that Bui gave them options to give the sample through Dartmouth-Hitchcock, take the sample themselves or let him do it.

"Nam explained that he would be blindfolded during the procedure and I asked him how that would work," the woman told Bowdish. "He said he had a lot of practice with dummies at the hospital and he could easily do it blindfolded."

She agreed to have the exam done by Bui, at which point he suggested it be done in her dorm room, according to court records. It eventually became apparent to this student that Bui was not conducting a legitimate exam. According to court records, she told Bui that she was uncomfortable and wanted to stop the procedure.

Prosecutors stated that Bui allegedly offered this same examination to two other students, but they declined.

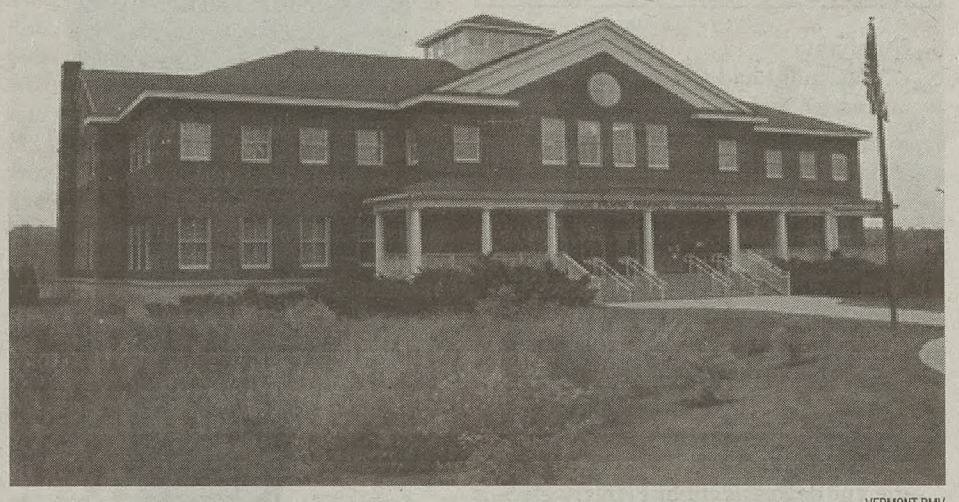
In addition, the *Addison Independent* reported that through her affidavit, Bowdish alleged that "Bui engaged in voyeurism by knowingly videotaping a young woman giving him oral sex — without her knowledge and permission — while on the Middlebury College campus on Sept. 24."

> ***"If he [Bui] is released on bail we will notify the College community immediately. A No Trespass Notice has been issued to him. If he enters College property he will be subject to immediate arrest.""***
>
> SUE RITTER
> MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE COMPLIANCE OFFICER AND TITLE IX COORDINATOR

Middlebury Police Department confirmed that Bui was neither a registered physician in Vermont nor a Dartmouth-Hitchcock employee. However, in an Oct. 18 interview Bui still maintained that he was doing research through the medical center.

In the process of the investigation, the Addison County Deputy State's Attorney Dennis W. Wygmans has been in contact with authorities in other locations to see whether Bui has been engaged in criminal activity elsewhere.

Since the student reported directly to the Middlebury Police, the case is under investigation by the department. According to Middlebury College Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator Sue Ritter, the College is "monitoring the status of the criminal case and we are cooperating with the police."



VERMONT DMV

Middlebury County District Court where the weight of evidence hearing took place.

Even if the student had wanted to press charges internally to the College, she could not have.

"Because the alleged perpetrator is not a member of our community we do not have the authority to hold him accountable under our conduct policies," Ritter stated in an email.

The fact that this man was on campus and conducting such experiments is a concern to many students.

When asked how the College was responding, Ritter replied, "Our focus right now is on supporting the victims and providing necessary resources."

Future changes to College policy are possible, but undecided.

"Right now we are waiting for the police to conclude their investigation and it is too early for us to evaluate whether any changes should be made. We do and will evaluate information as it becomes available and are always open to making appropriate changes," Ritter wrote.

This article is going into publication before the weight of evidence hearing has concluded, but there are two possible scenarios. Should the judge decide that Bui be held without bail, he will remain at the Marble Valley Regional Corrctional Facility until further court activity. Should the judge decide that he should be released on bail, Bui may be released, if the bail is paid.

"If he is released on bail we will notify the College community immediately. A No Trespass Notice has been issued to him. If he enters College property he will be subject to immediate arrest," Ritter wrote, on the possibility that Bui is released.

Middlebury Residents React to the Election

By Julianna Morales
Contributing Writer

Tuesday, Nov. 8 marked the climax of an exceptionally contentious election year. As voters in each state prepared to head to the polls, it was difficult to doubt a Clinton victory; polls released on Nov. 7 by Bloomberg, FOX News and the Economist showed Hillary Clinton leading Donald Trump by 3 to 4 points, respectively. FiveThirtyEight, a website focused on opinion poll analysis, released an election forecast indicating Clinton had a 71.4 percent chance at winning the presidency and a 10.5 percent chance of winning the popular vote but losing the electoral college.

From these very polls and election forecasts, people looked on in shock while Donald Trump racked up electoral votes. At 2:31 a.m. Eastern Time the Associated Press released a tweet reporting that Donald Trump had been elected as the 45th President of the United States.

Now that the results are in, Vermonters weigh in on what this election means to them.

"At bedtime on election night, our daughters were excited by the promise of waking to a woman president-elect, but what really mattered to them was they didn't want a president who 'is mean,'" said Barbara Ebling of Middlebury, a mother of three young daughters. "When [my husband and I] broke the news, our daughter Amelia asked, 'So he's going to be mean to us?'"

The anxiety felt by Ebling's daughter is not limited to young children who caught glimpses of election coverage on the nightly news, or overheard conversation between adults.

> ***"Both sides need to be able to listen to each other. Nothing good will come from both sides not interacting or speaking to each other."***
>
> EMILY BLISTEN
> OWNER OF CLEMENTINE

"Quite frankly," said William Poulin-Deltour, "I was simply shocked and horrified by the election results. I'm worried that he's going to do what he said during his campaign. Many are saying he won't, but it's too up in the air." Poulin-Deltour went on to mention that he found Vice-President-Elect Mike Pence to be "frightening...especially for the LGBTQ+ community."

Yet members of the Middlebury community find reasons to remain hopeful about the direction of the nation under the Trump administration.

"While I was hoping for a Democratic President [in order] to keep up progression on social issues, [I believe] Trump has the chance to become more professional in office. The pressures of the presidency will make or break him in the first few months," Adam Glaser, a local illustrator, told the *Campus*. "As an outsider, I also think Trump may be able to help the political parties work across the aisle."

"I was shocked, but not surprised [by the election results]. For small business owners and creative makers, our success relies on the community coming out and supporting us. I hope people will continue to put their money where their values are," said Emily Blisten, owner of the store Clementine in Middlebury.

Nonetheless, these hopes by no means invalidate the concerns felt by many as they grapple with the future of our country.

"I am concerned for my daughters' safety in a nation that has elected a man who brags about groping, peeping on and assaulting women. We want our daughters to have protection ... from their schools, the courts, federal legislation and the surrounding culture. I fear for these things and how they will be eroded and warped under Trump," stated Ebling.

"I am deeply saddened by the loss of potential progress that could have been made, especially for women and underrepresented people," Blisten said. "I worry that the Trump administration will not address violence and bigotry."

As for whether or not these hopes and fears will be realized, only time will tell. In the meantime, Middlebury residents offered insightful reminders on how to come to terms with the upcoming Trump administration and hold on to some optimism.

"Hopefully the left can use this time to bring themselves back together in time for the midterm elections," said Poulin-Deltour.

"It's not wise to point fingers about who caused this to happen," said Glaser. "Sure, it's a little unnerving, but keep things in perspective. The higher you go up, the harder you fall."

Blisten gave sound advice, regardless of whether or not the election of Trump is viewed as a step in the right direction: "Both sides need to be able to listen to each other. Nothing good will come from both sides not interacting or speaking to each other."

How Vermont Voted in 2016 Elections

By Annie Grayer
Local News Editor

Presidential Race

Highlights:

- Vermont had 3 electoral votes, which makes up 0.5 percent of the 538 electoral votes and 1.1 percent of the 270 electoral votes needed to win the general election.
- From 1960-2016, Vermont has voted for the winning presidential candidate 60 percent of the time.
- From 1854-1988, Vermont voted Republican in every election except in 1964 when it voted for Lyndon Johnson over Barry Goldwater.
- In the Presidential Primary election, Bernie Sanders won the Democratic primary with 85.17 percent of the vote and Donald Trump won the Republican primary with 32.3 percent of the vote.

Democratic Win Republican Win

Senate Race

Highlights:

- Democrats fielded 13 unopposed seats.
- Republicans had three unopposed seats.
- Three incumbents (two Democrats and one Republican) did not run for re-election.
- Democrats held a state goverment trifecta heading into the election.

Democratic Win Republican Win

Overall 2016 Vermont Presidential Election Results

100% Reporting Electoral Votes: 3

Polls Closing: 7:00 PM ET			Electoral Votes
✔ H. Clinton	61.1%	178,117	3
D. Trump	32.6%	95,050	
G. Johnson	3.4%	10,043	
J. Stein	2.3%	6,745	
R. De La Fuente	0.4%	1,063	
G. La Riva	0.1%	323	

Overall 2016 Vermont Senate Election Results

100% Reporting

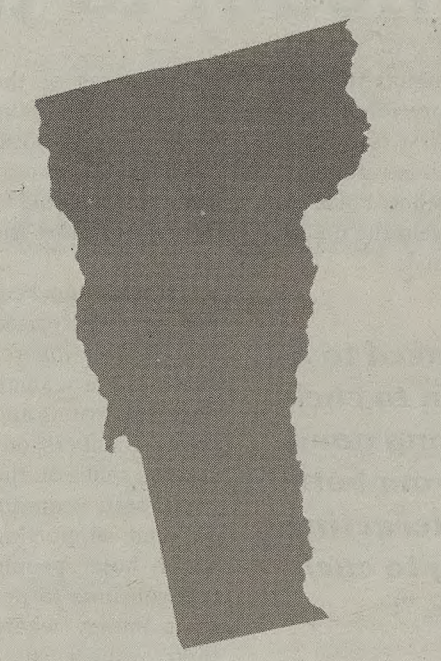
Polls Closing: 7:00 PM ET		
✔ P. Leahy (i)	61.3%	191,794
S. Milne	33.0%	103,248
C. Ericson	2.9%	9,136
J. Trudell	1.7%	5,401
P. Diamondstone	1.0%	3,232

(i) Incumbent, *Runoff

House Race

Highlights:

- Democrats filled 56 unopposed seats.
- Republicans filled 24 unopposed seats.
- 23 incumbents (20 Democrats and three Republicans) did not run for re-election.
- Leading up to the election, the Democratic Party held the majority in the Vermont House.

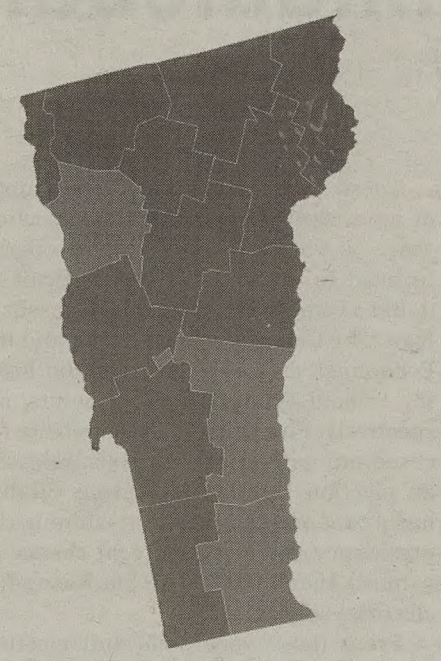


Democratic Win Republican Win

Governor Race

Highlights:

- Governor Peter Shumlin retired from office, leaving the governor's seat open.
- Five Democrats and two Republicans competed for their parties' nominations.
- Phil Scott's win in the general election broke a five-year Democratic hold.



Democratic Win Republican Win

Overall 2016 Vermont Governor Election Results

100% Reporting

Polls Closing: 7:00 PM ET		
✔ P. Scott	52.9%	166,219
S. Minter	44.2%	138,861
B. Lee	2.8%	8,873

(i) Incumbent, *Runoff

GRAPH INFORMATION COURTESY OF POLITICO, DESIGNED BY CORDELIA PROUVOST

OPINIONS

Disclaimer: Reader op-eds do not reflect the opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board.

Making the Most of the Media

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of The Middlebury Campus.

The national media largely failed to predict Donald J. Trump's election to the presidency last week. Here on our campus, many of us were also shocked — whether or not we should have been — by the outcome of this election. Trump's win raises many questions about the role of the media over this cycle, and it has led us to evaluate how, moving forward, students on liberal college campuses like ours can make the most of the media sources that are available to them.

One of the most striking changes in media since the 2012 presidential election is the increased prevalence and use of social media as news sources. Trump was an expert at manipulating the news and social media to his advantage. He also portrayed the media as biased and partial, claiming it had painted him in a negative light. Similarly, Hillary Clinton's campaign also blamed the media for negative portrayals of her and for obsessing over her email scandal.

The divided and biased media were also reflected in Facebook newsfeeds. Facebook has developed into a major source of news for many people. But our newsfeeds are curated based on our interests and those of our friends; as such, many of us were exposed only to information that reinforced our prior beliefs. Our insular information bubbles led us to believe that most of America agreed with our points of view. It's no wonder many liberals believed Clinton would win in a landslide — all they saw were predictions of her inevitable triumph. (However, we also acknowledge that many minority communities were unsurprised by the results, having dealt with discrimination from their fellow Americans their whole lives.) There exists a disconnect between Americans who voted for Clinton and those who voted for Trump that is reinforced by the media we consume. Our hope is that, moving forward, the *Campus* can contribute to dismantling this divide here at the College.

At this newspaper, we seek to represent all of the voices on campus and represent the kind of balanced media we need. Right now, voices on campus span a range from those who are pleased with a Trump presidency to those who are disappointed with his win to those who legitimately fear their safety is endangered by his election. A student-wide poll published in our Oct. 13 issue showed that roughly 88 percent of students supported Clinton while a mere 8 percent of students supported Trump. The same poll demonstrated that there exists a strong partisan divide in how people felt they could discuss politics: registered Democrats on the whole were very comfortable, while registered Republicans felt very uncomfortable — by exactly opposite margins — with sharing their opinions. We hope to reach out to the entire community.

To those who are afraid and hurting, we stand in solidarity with you and uphold your rights, even if our new president does not. We condemn the hate crimes that have occurred on our campus and across our nation against vulnerable populations, espousing hate, white supremacy, sexism and xenophobia. We will work to uphold values of inclusivity and equal opportunity.

To those who are frustrated by Trump's win and have the resources and privilege to do so, we call on you, as we did in our last editorial, to fight against oppressive policies and attitudes perpetrated by Trump or his supporters. Because some students need to prioritize their own self-care and safety, it is up to those who are able to contribute to a more just society to act now — to an extent that is proportional to their advantages in this society. We need to grasp that what many of us saw as a ridiculous or outrageous candidacy touched a deep restlessness and discontent that we did not understand; we need to start understanding that emotion. But we cannot, however vital this process of understanding the other side, accept a new status quo of discrimination and hateful injustice.

"To those who are frustrated by Trump's win and have the resources and privilege to do so, we call on you to fight against oppressive policies and attitudes perpetrated by Trump or his supporters. While some students need to prioritize self-care and safety, it is up to those who are able to contribute to a more just society to act now."

To those who supported and voted for Trump, please help others understand why you feel he is the best leader for our country right now. If you didn't view the president-elect's violent and intolerant discourse as a deal-breaker, what then motivated you to vote for him? Our community needs to know, and you can help our community understand the pro-Trump votes that won this election by talking about what issues matter to you. Through greater communication between the different parties, we can promote the country-wide unity that both parties' leaders have named a priority.

Whatever your reaction to the election results, you can contribute to a better future by accepting two tasks: first, to seek out those whose opinions differ from your own, and second, to add your own voice to our community media. It should be clear to all of us that this has been a hateful and divisive election cycle. Read what the other side has to say, understand what their lives are like and what they see from where they stand. Furthermore, look to sources beyond those colored by domestic biases: read foreign publications and gain insight from their outsider perspective.

With greater understanding of what motivates each other, we can begin to work on finding common ground and continuing the country's progress towards creating a more just state for all. This is not to say that hateful rhetoric should be tolerated. Some voters were likely motivated by pure racism, sexism or other forces of hate. These ideas cannot be entertained as rational or valid. Instead, those who have the energy and resources should seek to understand the economic, political and ideological reasons why others voted differently, and to examine how issues of race, gender and nationality overlap with these ideas.

We call on you to express yourself and your own ideas, so long as they are respectful and constructive to a community conversation. Through op-eds in this publication or others on campus, including *beyond the green* and *MiddBeat*, let your voice be heard. Stage protests and speeches, as students did on campus this past Sunday. By adding a respectful voice to the conversation, you can contribute to a community-level shift toward greater knowledge of the varied opinions held in the community and, hopefully, greater understanding across the political divide.

For our part, we at the *Campus* will continue to report on issues related to this election, and we invite organization leaders to use our platform to discuss those issues. While we will publish writings in favor of either side of political and economic issues, we will not publish hate speech or poorly informed pieces that use incomplete information to support discriminatory views. We will work with those who submit op-eds to improve the accuracy and consistency of their submissions. As we have stated before, our aim is to curate a thoughtful, respectful community dialogue within our Opinions pages. We will not shy away from using future editorials to hold elected officials, College administrators and other community leaders accountable to the same standards of inclusion, integrity and respect that we value as a community.

The Middlebury Campus

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The content written within the Opinions pages may cause emotional distress. Please exercise discretion.

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Against Islamophobia, Bigotry, Hate

READER OP-ED

The Staff of the Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life *denounces hateful rhetoric in the aftermath of Trump's election win.*

At our core we are a community with a firm belief in human dignity and compassion in which we respect one another, including every one of our identities. We celebrate diversity as a strength from which we grow and learn from one another. We are alarmed at the rising tide of Islamophobia, and any news of vandalism or hate speech on our campus directed at anyone for any reason.

We further acknowledge the position in which Muslims have been put as a result of the climate created in the recent election season. We recognize the challenges that members of the Muslim community face here at Middlebury at this time. They are among the students, staff and faculty who make us who we are at our best. They are we.

We condemn the exploitation of recent political speech to foster hateful rhetoric or the adoption of racist policies. We stand as one community against xenophobic blame-mongering and scapegoating. We vow to stand against Islamophobia wherever it occurs and to take appropriate measures against hateful and discriminatory speech or actions. We stand together for a radically inclusive world that fosters peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

Signed,

Naila Baloch, Associate Chaplain/Muslim Advisor
Laurie Jordan, Chaplain of the College
Ellen McKay, Program Coordinator
Mark R. Orten, Dean of Spiritual and Religious Life
Ira Schiffer, Associate Chaplain/Rabbi
Beau Scurich, Associate Chaplain/Muslim Advisor

Professors Against Derogatory Rhetoric

Dear College Community,

In normal circumstances, a presidential election would not prompt a public statement of opposition from professors at a liberal arts college.

However, this is an extraordinary case. The winning candidate has espoused ideologies that are extremely dangerous, and that are inimical to our work as educators. He himself has made derogatory and hateful comments about particular groups, including women, immigrants, people of color, people with disabilities and Muslims, and he has surrounded himself with advisors who have cultivated white supremacist affiliations and expressed homophobic, transphobic, misogynist and anti-Semitic views. He has also shown an obvious and consistent disregard for the truth. The cause for concern is most obvious among groups targeted with derogatory rhetoric, but when the rights and dignity of any group or anyone in our community are undermined, and when blatant falsehood is so clearly rewarded, we are all in danger.

We value the kinds of unity that benefit everyone, but as educators, our work is predicated on speaking truthfully. To do so in this case, we believe, is to resist the normalizing of hate in its various forms. Therefore, we wish to assert the following values: we deplore dishonesty in public discourse; we deplore all misogynistic, racist, homophobic, transphobic, xenophobic and other divisive rhetoric, including degrading comments about disability, sexual orientation, national origin or religious beliefs; and we assert our commitment to creating a respectful, civil, and inclusive community.

Sincerely,

Tara Affolter
Holly Allen
Carrie Anderson
Leticia Arroyo Abad
Cates Baldridge
James Berg
Lorraine Besser
Timothy Billings
Shannon Bohler
Ilaria Brancoli Busdraghi
Dan Brayton
Crystal Brown
Eileen Brunetto
Jeff Buettner
Louisa Burnham
Jane Chaplin
Maggie Clinton
Robert Cohen
Claudia Cooper
Carolyn Craven
Michaela Davico
Francisca Drexel
Laurie Essig
Deb Evans
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Rebecca Mitchell
Jason Mittell
Sujata Moorti
Kathryn Morse
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Kevin Moss
Stefano Mula
Caitlyn Myers
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Linus Owens
Ellen Oxfeld
William Poulin-Deltour
Erin Sassin
Paula Schwartz
Mike Sheridan
Doug Shivers
Sheerya Shivers
Yumna Siddiqi
John Spackman
David Stoll
Rebecca Tiger
Edward Vazquez
Hector Vila
Greg Vitercik
Adam Wager
Max Ward
Tracy Weston
Marion Wells
Lida Winfield
Catharine Wright
Patricia Zupan

Trump's Election and Our Call to Community

SWUGLIGHT

***Sophie Vaughan '17** responds to Trump's election win last week.*

Last spring a friend of mine emailed her club sports team an email the Black Student Union (BSU) wrote in reaction to a series of op-eds the group felt marginalized students of color on campus. My friend had forwarded the BSU's message to encourage her teammates to be allies for students of color, but more than one of her teammates responded that they were not pleased she had sent the email. One of her male teammates wrote the following: "I appreciate that you care about these issues but this is not the platform for that. The team email is to be used for team issues not politics."

There are so many things wrong with this man's note to my friend, but I was particularly struck by how emblematic his behavior was of a certain self-centeredness that I've observed among many Middlebury students, including myself.

Tuesday night's devastating election made my own self-centered behavior excruciatingly clear. The weekend before I had two opportunities to campaign for Hillary in swing states. Consumed by my own desire to focus on personal academic and career success, I took neither opportunity.

We students have different degrees of self-centeredness dependent on the privileges and circumstances we were exposed to growing up, and by no means is every student on this campus self-centered. But many are. And to a large extent I find this self-centered behavior to be a result of the incentives many privileged students, including myself, faced in getting to an elite institution like Middlebury. In essence, if we put our heads down and focused on perfecting our homework and extracurricular activities even when outside concerns arose, then we were rewarded with admission.

I was hesitant to write about such self-centered behavior before the election and even pulled my column on the topic from last week's issue. Who am I to tell others how to act, I thought, when I myself am profoundly self-centered?

However, in this difficult post-election week I have come even more to believe that we must all begin to circle a sun that burns not only from the fire of our own desires but also from the small ember of the common good so threatened by Trump's election.

Stepping outside of our own self-centeredness is important in any era, but only a few times each century is a generation called by the gravity of its social-political climate to orient even more intensely towards the common good. Just as the suffragettes of the late nineteenth century and civil rights activists of the 1960s and 70s altered their individual behavior to accommodate for collective needs, we must do so now.

How people interpret this not-so-self-centeredness is largely up to them, but a minimum behavior we could all support is simply to acknowledge that our decisions and actions impact other people. This may seem obvious, but our day-to-day behavior doesn't always reflect it. For example, it wasn't until the day after the election that I, having realized that I am deeply ignorant about the way a majority of Americans live, finally acknowledged the people in the dining hall who prepare our food every-day.

"We can manifest our sense of community responsibility through community service, campus activism and everyday kindness. Just this past Sunday nearly a hundred students showed up for a 'Love Trumps Hate' march around campus."

Extended further in a negative example, this self-centeredness manifests in behavior such as that of my friend's teammate who cared only about his own "team issues" to such an extent that he couldn't fathom the idea of making space to discuss "these [race] issues" that contributed to the oppression of many students on campus. Even worse, not only was his behavior self-centered, but as we have learned in this election, it was antithetical to democracy.

Democracy, as the election revealed, is harder than we thought and requires the constant acknowledgement that we belong to a larger community and take responsibility over our individual roles within it. In this way, by separating his own "team issues" from "these [race] issues" and "politics," my friend's teammate excused himself from his role in our democracy. So stuck within our own self-centered orbits I think we have lost the sense that "politics," at its heart, is not something independent of ourselves but the name we put on the community—the body politic, to which we all fundamentally belong.

"Just as the suffragettes of the late nineteenth century and civil rights activists of the 1960s and 70s altered their individual behavior to accomodate for collective needs, we must do so now."

We can manifest our sense of communal responsibility through community service, campus activism and everyday kindness. Just this past Sunday nearly a hundred students showed up for a "Love Trumps Hate" march around campus and one of the student speakers suggested three constructive campaigns we could wage right here at Middlebury: 1) democratize hiring practices so students can have a greater say in hiring faculty with diverse backgrounds, 2) unionize college staff members to ensure they earn higher wages, and 3) support the immigrant farmworkers who are essential to Vermont's agricultural industry but who are forced to live in the shadows and now in danger of deportation.

I am especially interested in exploring the potential for number two because the dining hall worker I spoke with the other day said that her son is on the free or reduced meal program at his elementary school. At a school as wealthy and privileged as Middlebury it's disturbing that any staff member of the college would make so little money that her son has to be on food aid.

Additionally, another prominent way we can all exemplify community values is through our choice of post-graduate employment. Here I will start with a negative example, because I think it's an important one. Many students on this campus go into jobs at high paying firms whose work exacerbates wealth inequality by making the rich richer with no concern for the bottom 99% of Americans. I understand that a few students who take jobs at these firms grew up in less privileged households and need to do so to support their families or pay off student loan debt. But as the new book "Pedigree" made clear, the majority of students who get elite jobs at high paying firms already come from extremely privileged backgrounds.

At a time when wealth inequality has divided our country and left many people struggling, it would serve our country well to view ourselves less as individuals independent of communal structures and instead critically examine the ways our employment decisions serve simply to transfer exorbitant wealth from one generation of elite to the next. We all have immense privilege, intelligence and power merely as a result of attending this institution and one day garnering a Middlebury degree. What impact could we have if we used these tools not to simply propagate privilege but instead address the root causes of wealth inequality?

Especially at this point in our lives, a certain degree of self-centeredness is appropriate to allow for reflection on our personal strengths and weaknesses which can inform what role we assume in society. But the challenge I am posing to myself and all Middlebury students as we enter the scary unknown of Trump's presidency is that this reflection leads us away from self-centeredness and towards community. For, the most important vote we will make was never for President but in the utilization of our own potential for the common good.

Beyond Tears and Anger: Conversations

READER OP-ED

Vick Xu '19 and Caroline Snell '19 *respond to Donald Trump's election.*

After the election, our student body was understandably shocked and upset. We expected Clinton to win, as the polls predicted, and the majority of us wanted her to. Tears and fear drove us to the street, and we said to ourselves "He's not my president." However disappointing the outcome might be, and however uncertain we are about the future, Trump won a fair election and to repudiate this result would undermine our democratic institutions. Let's start trying to objectively understand how this happened. Consider this Nov. 12 Facebook post from Bernie Sanders: "Donald J. Trump won the White House because his campaign rhetoric successfully tapped into a very real and justified anger, an anger that many traditional Democrats feel. I am saddened, but not surprised, by the outcome. It is no shock to me that millions of people who voted for Mr. Trump did so because they are sick and tired of the economic, political and media status quo." Rather than implying or assuming that every Trump supporter is bigoted, we should study the discontent and grievances that shaped their opinions. We continue to oppose Trump's hateful rhetoric, any harmful policies he may try to enact, and the terrible acts recently perpetrated by some of his supporters. But let us not condemn half the nation along with these things; let us show some empathy and strive to bridge, not widen, our divides.

The unfortunate tendency on both sides of the political spectrum is to make quick, reductive assumptions. People delete friends on social media, refusing to engage with different ideas even when those ideas come from those they know well. A common argument is that Trump was elected on a wave of ignorance and bigotry, and that everyone who voted for him shares these characteristics. Some Middlebury students may share the opinion of one of our friends, who wrote with frustration after Trump's victory: "Nothing justifies voting for a guy who is accused of sexual assault, spreading hate against communities who are just as 'disenfranchised/vulnerable' as working class white majority." If we were to follow this logic, it would seem obvious that the people directly victimized by Trump's rhetoric would be the most likely to rise up and vote against him. The Latino community, for example, would demonstrate strong solidarity against Trump. However, statistics have shown otherwise. Not only did Trump avoid a major withdrawal from the communities he smeared, he successfully locked up more votes from them than former Republican candidates. The exit poll conducted by CNN shows that despite his "tough talk," Trump received more Latino votes (29%) than Romney did in 2012 (27%). Similarly, despite his repeated claims that the African American community is in worse shape than ever, Trump has secured more African American votes, getting 8% compared to Romney's 7%. While his supporters did look past his bigotry and hateful rhetoric and we should criticize their willingness to do so, it's more complicated than that.

"If Trump supporters are indeed racists, they would not have put Obama, our first African-American president, into the White House. So how should we interpret Trump's 'impossible success?'"

Some Middlebury students may say that Trump won the election because his rhetoric channeled the racism buried in the hearts of many. Some of us, shocked by the result, turned to believe in the existence of a near perfect correlation between Trump supporters and white supremacists. This argument does not stand up to scrutiny of the election result. A Washington Post study found that "of the nearly 700 counties that twice sent Obama to the White House, a stunning one-third flipped to support Trump", and that "these former Obama strongholds sealed the election for Trump." If Trump supporters are indeed racists, they would not have put Obama, our first African-American president, into the White House. So how should we interpret Trump's "impossible success?" Given his oftentime offensive rhetoric, Trump's success today requires us to more than ever abandon our bias and view the situation objectively.

The first step for us students to understand Trump's success, we believe, is to compel ourselves to understand complex political, social and economic topics, without reducing them to black-and-white issues or dismissing the views with which we disagree. One of our community standards includes the "fostering [of] a diverse and inclusive community committed to civility, open-mindedness and finding common ground." We have, however, from time to time forgotten the promise we made to ourselves. We are increasingly looking at the world through a distorted lens and refused to listen to opposing arguments. A student poll conducted by the Campus (Oct. 13) shows that "While 81 percent of Democrats said that they feel comfortable expressing their opinions openly on campus, 81 percent of Republicans said the exact opposite." Take for example the discussion of affirmative action, a legal topic that has endured decades of debates among intellectuals. The past oped article, "Conversation in Confines" (Feb. 17, 2016), attempted to initiate the discussion of this topic following the college's endorsement of UT Austin. This attempt was soon inundated by criticism such as, "this is not an abstract intellectual debate. This is the manifestation of the racism that undermines our intelligence" (See article posted in Beyond the Green on Feb. 25). Labeling the conversation a "manifestation of racism" even before it could be carried out in a wholehearted, academic fashion does not help bridge the difference, but would only aggravate it. Likewise, calling a Trump supporter "racist" does not prevent him or her from selecting Trump at the voting booth. What it might do, however, is alienate "us" from "them" and to reinforce the impression of arrogance many less-educated Americans already have regarding the college-educated. We need to bear in mind the unpleasant fact that half of the families in this country earn less than 80% of a single student's tuition here at Middlebury, and they might have a much different view of the society than we do.

We have often praised the virtues of the politicians like James Madison who are able to "reach across the aisle" for compromises and denounced those who acted imperiously without empathy. We can and must continue this virtue. We must work against Trump's bigotry and harmful proposals while also working with the many reasonable people who voted for him because they worried about their futures and their families. By listening to other viewpoints—especially those with which we disagree—we can understand our differences and unite the country behind our shared principles and values. We are not asking you to be silent in the face of discrimination or hateful rhetoric. We are not asking you to endorse biased and un-American policies. But it is our duty to try to understand how we came to be here and how we can move forward. That begins with empathy and civil debate—two great strengths of Middlebury students. Let's give it a shot.

Judge that Happiness is Freedom and Freedom Courage

U.S. AND THEM

Jack Turnage '17.5 *responds to the presidential election results.*

In the last few days, friends have told me they need to go buy IUDs now while they still have health insurance. Friends have told me that they are scared for family members who will be targeted for deportation. Hate crimes are rising, with reports of hate crimes even at Middlebury College. Like a lot of other people, I thought that it was best not to be alone last Wednesday.

Alongside this sickening new reality, many are insisting that liberals try to understand the mindset of people who voted for Trump; that we recognize how political uniformity at colleges like Middlebury limits both free speech and the potential to understand Trump voters; that we admit the certainty with which we communicate social change can be counterproductive.

As accurate as those critiques may be, the need for reflection and reconciliation does not compare to the immediate necessity to steel ourselves for what lies ahead. If left unchecked by a watchful public, in the next two years, Trump will have enough power to fundamentally change America's laws and governing institutions – the fabric of American society. Republicans control the Presidency, the Senate, the House, most governorships and state legislatures and now hold the most nationwide political power they have had since 1928. They have inherited the Supreme Court pick they refused to consider for Pres. Obama, and Trump could nominate as many as three more justices during his Presidency, given that three current justices are over 78.

Most worryingly, in January, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell could eliminate the filibuster, the only real check on Trump's power. The filibuster is a procedure through which the Senate minority – if over 40 Senators – can block the majority's laws. The cruel irony is that Republicans used this procedure a record number of times from when in the minority from 2008-14, and they may now deny the Democratic minority the same right to protect itself. If McConnell does eliminate the filibuster, it would not only wreck the Senate's traditional role as a more bipartisan, deliberative body than the House, but would allow for any number of crazy ideas to become law – think of wholesale attacks on environmental protections, reproductive rights, civil rights and healthcare. Even if McConnell keeps the filibuster, Democrats will be defending 25 Senate seats in 2018, many in states that voted for Trump, compared to only eight seats for Republicans. If Democrats come out of the 2018 elections having lost more than seven Senate seats, they will be totally incapable of blocking Trump's laws. Additionally, if Republicans win the House in 2018, the GOP will be able – as in 2010 – to redraw the country's Congressional districts to their advantage for the next decade. The next two years will define America for a long time. If you have a head, a heart and red blood in your veins, get involved in politics!

It seems hopeless, after such an exhausting and divisive campaign that led to such total defeat, to engage in argument and activism and the political process. It will be much easier to retreat from politics in disgust and fear, to believe that what Trump does will not affect you, to absolve yourself of the obligation to have basic knowledge of and opinions about what is happening around you. But what we must realize is that this alienation from politics is what Trump wants. Having ridden to power on rage and resentment, he wants to tyrannize over speech and thought; to so terrify those who disagree with him and his supporters that we do not engage in the political process and leave it to Trump alone. (For anyone doubting Trump's willingness to curtail freedom of speech, see Megyn Kelly's new book, which details the pressure he put on her for more favorable coverage this election.)

"Give Trump a chance; but be prepared to fight. Fight for fact, reason, equality under the law, tolerance, the rights of minorities, the ability for people to freely express themselves and the inalienable rights and dignity of every person."

Take heart and suit up. Democrats have in their favor long-term demographic changes – the fact that young people decisively rejected Trump, the fact that the majority did not vote for Trump and the knowledge that many things Trump does and says are hateful and morally wrong. Give Trump a chance; but be prepared to fight. Fight for fact, reason, equality under the law, tolerance, the rights of minorities, the ability for people to freely express themselves and the inalienable rights and dignity of every person. Fight against authoritarian impulses, intellectual conformity and hatred of every kind. Demonstrate, organize, pressure your elected representatives, get involved in your communities, go work in public service, be vigilant of those who would silence you. Take pride in defending your convictions, take comfort in organizing with those who feel similarly, talk to those who feel differently, and defend those who were singled out by Trump's campaign as worthy of contempt and persecution. If we do not speak out, we cede to Trump the ability to define right and wrong. Above all we must fight against this. As David Remnick said on Wednesday: "Fascism is not our future – it cannot be; we cannot allow it to be so – but this is surely the way fascism can begin."

Racial Discourse at Middlebury

READER OP-ED

***Professor David Stoll** writes in about racial discourse following the election.*

Has Middlebury College developed a case of lockjaw? Following Shaun King's talk in Mead Chapel two weeks ago, Campus reporters asked students what they thought of his ideas and Black Lives Matter. Many said they were reluctant to be quoted by name. The Campus was able to publish only opinions favorable to King and BLM.

Last week, as a stunned crowd in the Crossroads Café watched Donald Trump win the presidency, the celebrations apparently were confined to dorm rooms. In public spaces, the only permissible expressions seemed to be forced levity, consternation or grief.

When someone wrote Black Lives Matter on a blackboard, prompting someone else to cross off the word "Black" and revise it to "All Lives Matter," our new Community Bias Response Team felt obliged to issue a communique.

The bias response team, the rest of the college administration, the Campus, the Student Government Association, the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, the Anderson Freeman Resource Center, and other diversity campaigners all seem to be on the same page, but is this impressive alliance of inclusionists excluding a significant share of the college community?

Personally, I have yet to find the silver lining in Trump's victory. I share the cringing and anxiety of most of the people around me. But we cannot blame Donald Trump for our case of lockjaw.

Elite colleges like Middlebury are a bit like Christian monasteries in the Middle Ages. Our tax status and ability to pass on endowments undivided by inheritance makes us wealthier and wealthier in relation to the surrounding population. Some of our working-class staffers have less privilege than any professor or student--regardless of your skin color, gender status or current social class. If you don't think this applies to you, let's add up your tuition benefits and likely future earnings. Without privilege, you wouldn't be reading books about it.

Middlebury College also resembles Christian monasteries in that we have a noble mission but, day to day, are competing with each other. Who will win the election for abbot? Whose agenda will prevail? Over time the shifting agendas, disagreements and deals of administrators, faculty, students, alumni and trustees have produced multiple discourses and claims that don't necessarily mesh very well:

We're a liberal arts college (so we take the time needed to develop subtlety and nuance in understanding complex issues).

We're as competitive as possible (so we seek to admit and hire the best and brightest).

We're also a big family (so we claim to have enduring loyalties).

We're inclusive (which means we welcome new kinds of students and faculty).

We could get sued over that (which requires the constant addition of new forms of surveillance to control risk and assure compliance).

Not only can these commitments collide—every year the administration announces new improvements to manage the collisions. But the improvements can also collide. For example, what happened to our campaign against stress? How long did it stop us from announcing tempting new opportunities to stress each other out? And so I wonder if this college's vulnerability to lockjaw originates in our attempt, following the advice of the Apostle Paul, to be all things to all people.

Nowadays, being all things to all people requires diversity and inclusion. Over the years, Middlebury College has defined this primarily in racial terms, rather than in terms of social class. There were good reasons to do this, but there were also good reasons not to—one of which is that focusing on race has led to our current fixation with privilege as a function of skin tone, when it actually has stronger roots in social class.

If I'm correct about this, I wonder if we could unlock our jaws with more discussion of how we're using pregnant terms like race and racism, microaggression, cultural appropriation, and safe space. I say "pregnant" because, while you may expect one thing from these terms, you have a good chance of getting the opposite.

Let's start with the biggest and scariest word of all, especially in a liberal enclave like Middlebury College. Race is a structural form of inequality that needs to be addressed in a liberal arts education. It is also a cognitive error. Skin tone is not a reliable guide to privilege or lack of same, nor is it a reliable guide to much of anything. My impression is that some Midd faculty encourage students to believe that race is the root of all social evil and that every issue should be racialized, that is, analyzed in racial terms. This is a serious mistake in my view; race is a recent invention, human beings never have lacked other rationales for mistreating each other, and it is rarely a good mono-causal explanation.

Microaggression is intended to describe how a classroom can be stacked against a minority. Judging from an administration-sponsored webinar last year, a microaggression is any perceived slight. But what if the perception is wrong, and how can any difficult issue be discussed without arousing emotions? Calling out students or faculty for microaggressions is more likely to shut down discussions than improve them.

Cultural appropriation is another concept intended to prevent slights to minority students. The problem is that anyone's culture is, by definition, our assemblage of appropriations from the people around us. Culture is appropriation. What campaigners wish to prevent is cultural misappropriation, but if they are serious about defining what is and is not appropriate, they will have to classify individuals into pre-determined cultural groups and judge what styles of personal expression belong to each group. Good luck!

Safe space is, like campaigning against microaggressions and cultural appropriation, intended to protect minority groups from racial slights. Safety is a word like apple pie and motherhood—no one objects to it. But if the very idea of President Donald Trump makes many of us feel unsafe, should the college rope off areas where he shall not be named?

An underlying problem runs through all three of these concepts. Given that any argument is back-and-forth microaggressions, given that anyone's culture is a sum of cultural appropriations, and given that our contemporary world is a threatening one, these concepts can be invoked to shut down any exchange of disturbing information.

That's not what proponents want. What they do seem to envision is that certain people will have the right to label an interaction as a microaggression or a cultural appropriation, and that certain people will have the right to demand safe space. But not everyone. Thus white students will not have the right to demand safe space from a discussion of the slave trade, nor will they be able to claim cultural ownership of Alpine ski gear and business suits.

What the three concepts require, in practice, is classifying everyone on campus into potential victims and potential victimizers. Currently, the most popular label for this category of potential victims is "students of color." "Of color" is an expression with a long and honorable history. It enables you to situate yourself outside the usual categories. It also builds solidarity between different groups who might otherwise compete with each other, making it very useful in broadening political platforms.

But should Middlebury College use skin color as an administrative category? I will argue no, because when color becomes an administrative category, it requires the institution to classify us on the basis of our skin tone. Exactly who has color? Asian-American and Asian students? Everybody from the Mideast and Latin America? Everybody with an Hispanic surname? And what about the assumption that students of color lack privilege whereas white students have it? Thanks to international student flows, immigration, and intermarriage, as well as Vermont's class structure, skin tone on this campus is far from an accurate indicator of privilege.

This is why I think we've developed a case of lockjaw. With the best of intentions, our administration is mandating concepts that are so racially charged that, in the name of broadening conversations about race, they are instead shutting them down. If race is a cognitive error, we can't escape it by constructing a new racial system. If we do construct a new racial system, it will empower some people at the expense of shutting other people up, just like the old racial system did.

#AbsolutelyYourPresident

READER OP-ED

***Connor Freeman '19.5** responds to calls to renounce Trump as President.*

In the wake of the populist upset after Election Day, the young and the restless have taken to the internet in furious cries that Donald Trump is #NotMyPresident! They call for the abolition of the electoral college, for a sort of intellectual assault on the federal government or even for the outright rejection of the outcome of this year's election. As a young and restless romantic myself, I fully understand their frustration. But as an ambitious idealist who dreams of building on what we have, rather than starting anew from the ashes of some raging revolution, I wholeheartedly reject their movement.

I plead with them to direct their passions elsewhere. And I implore you all to have an intense and deep-seated fear of the word "revolution." We are all facing an administration the likes of which our nation has never known. The administration may occasionally accomplish some good, but it may often be the instrument of ignorance and rage. Donald Trump is by leaps and bounds the oldest, the least qualified and the least prepared man to assume the presidency in the two-and-a-half centuries of the office's existence. I hope that I am not being altogether too obtuse or pessimistic in saying that he may well prove to be the worst commander-in-chief in American history...but he will not be the last.

The morning after Mr. Trump's election, I called my 85-year-old Mor Mor (grandma), who lives alone in a retirement home in Maine. She is a white-haired, fiery-eyed, die-hard Democrat who was among the first class of women allowed to graduate from the University of North Carolina. (Imagine the suffragette from Mary Poppins for an accurate picture.) She was immensely discouraged by the results of Tuesday night. I could hear in her voice the fear that everything which she and women like her have fought for has been thrown into jeopardy. She is afraid that for once, despite all the rhetoric of past elections, we are finally about to start moving backward instead of forward.

But I assured her otherwise. We human beings have an exhaustive capacity to see the worst in the world around us. It is tempting – and in a strange way even comforting – to think that we are witnessing the collapse of all that we hold dear. But we never really are. This is because we also have an exhaustive capacity for progress and adaptation. Neither you nor I – nor even the newly-elected members of the U.S. Congress – are about to let the efforts of people like Mor Mor go to waste. Neither the world nor the American Republic is about to end under President Trump.

Do not mistake me. I am not for a moment encouraging you to quiet down or to "get over it." If you feel – as I do – that the outcome of this election has called you to renewed dedication to your principles, then the nation is expecting you to defend them with more vigor and prudence than ever before. But do not "rise up," and do not dare to utter the word "revolution." That is a word reserved for frustrated Frenchmen who care more for slogans and adrenaline than for genuine progress. Donald J. Trump is soon to be the lawfully-elected president of the United States. He may be the slimiest, most undeserving racist and misogynistic monster ever to claim that title, but it shall be his nonetheless. To act otherwise is not only unproductive, it's downright dangerous. If you continue to claim that Donald Trump is not your president, then there shall be nothing – and I mean nothing – which separates you in that respect from the radical nationalists who claimed that President Obama was not theirs. Tear down the man, if you feel so inclined, but do not tear down the office to which we have elected him.

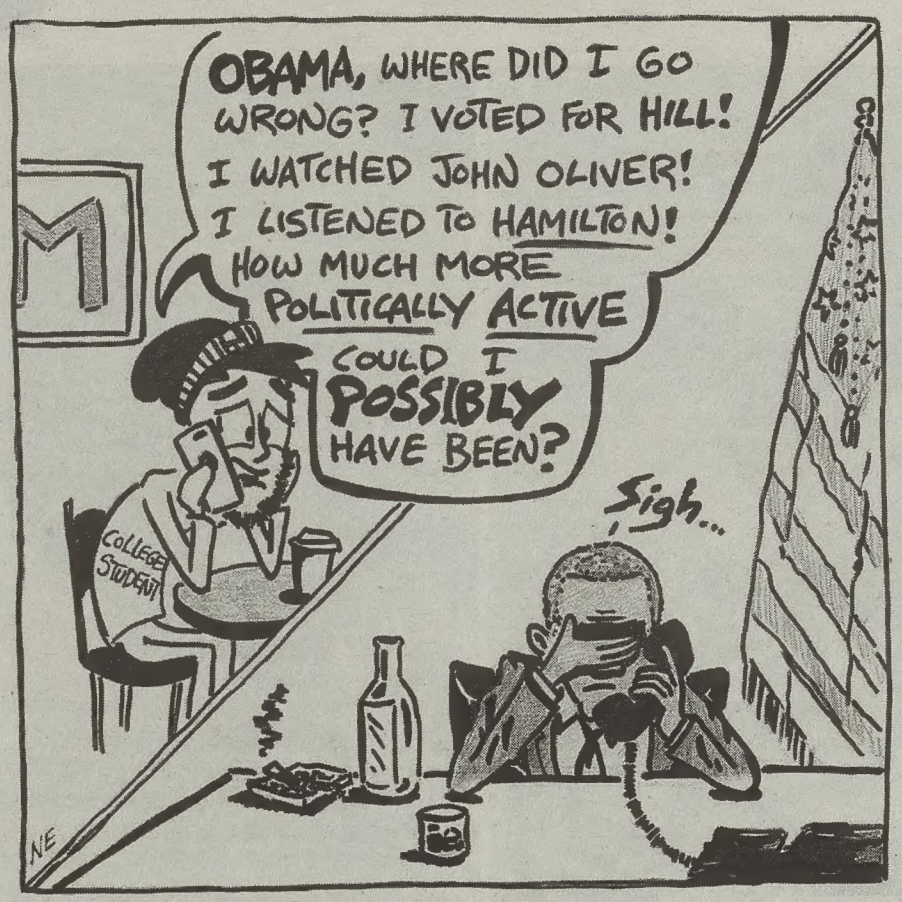
If the red-faced radicals that call for riots in the streets and reality-blind hashtags have their way, then we will have set an irrevocable #AbsolutelyYourPresident precedent for our next, more inspiring president. He (or she) is, after all, only a few years away, and needs all the help that we can provide in preparing the nation for his or her arrival. So leave "#NotMyPresident" behind. It will only harm you in the immensely important and formative years to come.

Go about your studies, your work and your activism with a renewed dedication and sense of purpose. Know that everything we do – from studying poetry in the library to picketing in Montpelier – is of earth-moving importance to the future of our Republic. Do not turn in disgust against those who disagree with us – even those who disagree so drastically as to elect a man like Donald Trump to the presidency. And above all, do not deny reality for the sake of our injured sensibilities. Comfort those who are afraid, make peace with those who hate us and make ready the way – by way of wisdom and cordiality – for the 46th President of the United States.

CARTOONS

The Middlebury Campus

WIN HOMER


OBAMA, WHERE DID I GO WRONG? I VOTED FOR HILL!
I WATCHED JOHN OLIVER!
I LISTENED TO HAMILTON!
HOW MUCH MORE POLITICALLY ACTIVE COULD I POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN?
COLLEGE STUDENT
Sigh...
NE

NOLAN ELLSWORTH

Breakfast At The White House
...Joe? Did you eat all of the Fruit Loops?
Fruit Loops!
...
It's been a rough week, okay!?
Sending love to everyone

KAITLYND COLLINS

URIEL ULLOA ADAN

College Cats: Senior Year by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily

WINTER SPORT

2015-16 NESCAC FINISH: 1ST CAPTAINS: CARLY WATSON '17 AND VICTORIA LAVEN '17

The Women's Hockey team will head into the 2016-2017 seasons coming off their 8th NESCAC championship victory and a trip to the NCAA Semifinals. Head Coach Bill Mandigo is heading into his 29th season as the winningest coach in women's college hockey history with a record of 522-135-37. Alongside Coach Mandigo's leadership, the Panthers have several key aspects to rely on throughout the season.

First, their depth: at each position, any player can step up and make a decisive play, save a goal or score one. All 24 players bring something invaluable and even the first-years can come into the game at any moment and contribute. Returning players Maddie Winslow '18 (19 goals and 27 assists last season), Jessica Young '18 (13 and 17) and Elizabeth Wulf '18 (7 and 13) are huge offensive producers while captain Carly Watson '17, who missed most of last season with an injury, assistant captain Victoria Laven '17, Grace Jennings '19 and two other sophomores will play on the blue line for the Panthers. Winslow was the NESCAC and New England Player of the Year last season, as well as a first-team All-American.

Second, their speed: The Panthers have been one of the fastest teams in the NESCAC and arguably nationally— all teams must be ready to defend against an aggressive, speedy offensive that is relentless once they get going.

Middlebury, aside from winning the NESCAC championship, is setting its eyes on an NCAA championship, the first since 2006. They have had countless runs into the national tournament, but it has been 10 years since the trophy was hoisted above Panther heads.

2015-16 RECORD: 8-11-7 CAPTAINS: ANDREW NEARY '17, TRAVIS STEPHENS '17, MARK MCCLELLAN '18

Graduating a total of nine seniors in the spring, the Middlebury men's hockey team laces up for the 2016-17 season with a team full of new and returning energy. The Panthers owned one of the nation's toughest schedules last winter, finishing with a record of 8-11-7, going 6-5-7 in the NESCAC.

After last season's run to the NESCAC Semifinals, second-year Head Coach Neil Sinclair commented on his new team mix.

"A bunch of the first-years are going to have the opportunity [to make big contributions]," said Sinclair. "It's going to be a lot of fun to see who emerges and takes advantage of the opportunities that are there. The whole class has been full of energy and working hard."

According to Sinclair, the biggest focus of preseason has been team-building and getting the team comfortable playing with one another. The important group of returnees has a strong sense of leadership, playing an important role throughout the fall and preseason.

"We have a really nice nucleus of returning players, who are going to keep us moving in the right direction," said Sinclair.

Specifically, returning offensively will be last season's top scorer Vincent Gisonti '18 and Travis Stephens '17, who will be key players up top this winter. Stephen Klein '18, who suffered from an injury towards the end of the 2015-16 season, will be returning in goal for the Panthers.

On the defensive side of the puck, Middlebury will have five returning defenseman, namely Spencer Cage '19, Zach Weier '18, David Belluche '18, Jimmy McKee '19, and Captain Andrew Neary '17. Matt Doherty '19 will also be a key contributor both defensively and offensively for the Panthers.

The Panthers open their tough slate tomorrow night at Colby.

2018 EISA FINISH: 4TH CAPTAINS: ALPINE: CAROLINE BARTLETT '19, KATY GREENE '17, CHRISTOPHER MCKENNA '17, RILEY PLANT '18 NORDIC: KATIE FELDMAN '18, LUNA WASSON '17, PATRICK MCELRAVEY '17

The Alpine and Nordic ski teams look improve on their 4th place finishes in every carnival last year. Perhaps the biggest event of their regular season is the Middlebury Winter Carnival, which takes place on the weekend of February 17 at the Snow Bowl. They also look to improve on their 11th-place finishes at the National Championships in Steamboat Springs, Colorado last winter. They look primed to improve as they will be skiing with a little extra help donning their 'Senditformurph' gear.

The Nordic ski team brings in seven new first year athletes to help them try to improve on last season's and replace Annie Pokorny '16 and Kelsey Phinney '16 who represented the Panthers last year at the National Championships. For the men's team, Patrick McElravey '17 returns after a 28th place in the men's 10K freestyle and a 23rd place in the 20K classical race in Colorado. Katilin Fink '17 should be a major contributor after a strong junior campaign and a 13th place finish at Middlebury's 5K freestyle event. Cate Brams '18 also returns came in 14th in the 15K race at last year's Winter Carnival.

The Alpine squad should control their own destiny as they return several team leaders, including team captain Riley Plant '18 and Colin Hayes '17 who finished 14th and 15th respectively in Giant Slalom at NCAA's. Hayes also placed 18th in Slalom and will be a key contributor along with teammates All-American teammates Rob Cone '17 and Chris McKenna '17 who finished 1st and 3rd, respectively, in the 2015 NCAA meet. Fellow captain Caroline Bartlett '19 finished 19th at NCAAs in GS which led the women's side and will race with new teammates Bridget Currier '20 and Katie Utter '20.

2015-16 RECORD: MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CSA FINISH: 15TH CAPTAINS: MENS: WYATT FRENCH '17, ANDREW CADIEN-HEAD '17 WOMENS: AUDREY ELLEN '17, LIDDY RENNER '18

After winning the third division's Summer's Cup three years in a row, the men's squad broke into the second division last year and finished seventh in the Hoehn Cup and 15th nationally.

"With a large and strong incoming class, we'd like to move up in the B Division," said Head Coach Mark Lewis.

Wyatt French '17 played in the second slot last season and was named to the first team all-NESCAC squad. He ended the year with a 51st-place finish at the individual championships.

The women's squad also finished 15th last season and closed out the season with a 7th-place finish in the Kurtz Cup

"We'd like to finish in the top 16 nationally and be 2nd in the NESCAC," said coach Lewis about the women's squad's goals.

Last season the women placed 3rd at NESCACs after they drew a strong Williams squad in the conference semifinals last season.

The team graduated three of their top-four players from last season, but they have plenty of talent returning. Sophomores Alexa Comai '19 and Bea Kuijpers '19 return after a strong first-year campaign for the Panthers. By the end of last season Kuijpers was playing in the third slot for the Panthers. Comai played fifth on the ladder and was an almost a sure win there last season for the Panthers. Lucy Bostwick '18 missed several matches last season due to injury, but played a key role for the Panthers when she was on the court.

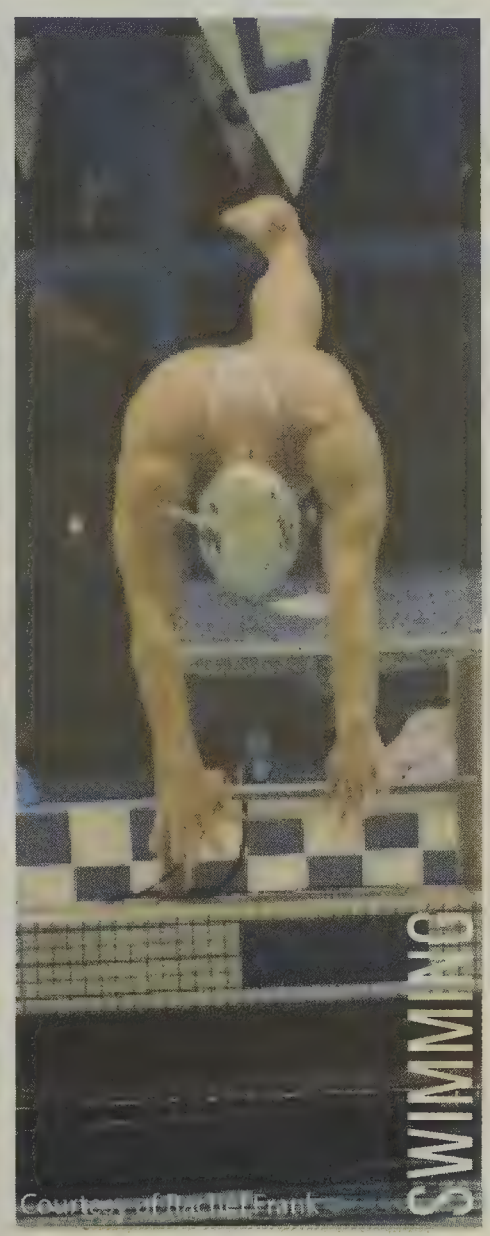
Something to look forward to for home matches will be new technology that will include a monitor and ipads to enhance training this year.

Both teams open the season at home on Friday, Dec. 2, at the squash courts.

The Panthers have posted year-to-year improvements each of the last three seasons."Our program grew last season with many young faces on the court," said Krasco. "We are excited to ride the wave of momentum we built and continue to progress throughout this season."

ORTS PREVIEW

Courtesy of Michael O'Hara



Courtesy of Rachel Frank

2015-16 NESCAC FINISH: 8TH

The team returns its top four scorers and three of its top rebounders from a season ago.

Sophomore center Catherine Harrison '19, one of those top scorers and rebounders, was last season's conference Rookie of the Year. In the paint last winter, she averaged a double-double with 11.3 points and 11 rebounds per game for the Panthers. On top of that she shot an unheard of 50 percent from the floor.

Junior guards Sarah Kaufman '18, Sabrina Weeks '18 and Rachel Collins '18 all return to the court after two successful years. Kaufman averaged almost 15 points per game and was the NESCAC leader from the free throw line with a 90 percent mark.

Weeks played in 17 of 25 games last winter and when on the court she was a consistent contributor. Collins became a strong vocal presence during her sophomore campaign, playing in 24 games and averaging four-and-a-half points per contest.

Point guard Alex Huffman was a steady presence in her first collegiate season. She dished out 2.5 assists per game, while averaging over six points and five rebounds. Sophomore Colleen Caveney '19 started 24 of 25 games and averaged over seven points and four rebounds in her first collegiate season.

"I am optimistic and excited about the upcoming season with the majority of our team returning," noted Krasco. "We must come to practice daily with the attitude that we want to strive to be better. If each player strives to improve on a daily basis, we will have a solid foundation to build on moving forward throughout the season. Much like every year, we play a very competitive schedule again this winter. We will compete against some of the best teams in the country both in and out of league play and that excites us!"

The team opens the campaign Saturday against Wittenberg at the Rose City Tip-Off Classic.

2015-16 NESCAC FINISH: 1ST
CAPTAINS: JAKE BROWN '17, MATT ST. AMOUR '17, JACK DALY '16

The men's basketball team hopes to capitalize on last year's NESCAC championship and 18-11 record with a strong returning cast. Coach Jeff Brown, in his 20th season with the program, will look to leverage the guard play of Jake Brown '17, Matt St. Amour '17, Jack Daly '16 and a dynamic but young front court. Brown and Daly are the team's playmakers and defensive anchors. St. Amour, the Panthers' volume shooter aims to lead the NESCAC in scoring with high 3-point efficiency and his ability to draw fouls.

Finding consistent shooting outside of St. Amour is a key focus for the team heading into November.

"I think offensively if we can be more of a 3-point threat it will open up the floor for our bigs and allow our guards more room to operate," Coach Brown said. "Defensively as long as we execute the game plan we can compete with anyone."

Forwards Zach Baines '19 and Adisa Majors '18 are expected to fill out the starting lineup. Majors, began last season behind centers Nick Tarantino '18 and the recently graduated Matt Daley '16 in the rotation. However, he proved to be a key contributor late in the season, averaging 11.8 points and 6.5 rebounds in February, including an 18-8 outburst in the NESCAC quarterfinal against Wesleyan.

Baines, with his elite length and athleticism will give the Panthers another dynamic defender on a roster stocked with big guards. If he can develop as a shooter, he will stretch the floor for a team that struggled with spacing.

Coach Brown will rely on guards Bryan Jones '17, Liam Naughton '17 and Hilal Dahleh '19 for shooting off the bench. The team also welcomed four freshman: Matt Folger '20, Perry DeLorenzo '20, Joey Leighton '20 and Robbie Holley '20. Folger and DeLorenzo may see playing time as they compete for spots in the Panthers' uncertain forward rotation.

2015-16 NESCAC FINISH: W 2ND, M 3RD
CAPTAINS: WOMENS: JANE FREDA '17, MADDIE PROVONOST '17, EMILY MELLEN '17, PAIGE FERNANDEZ '17, KATIE MERRICK '17
MENS: SAM KLOCKENKEMPER '17, ALEX NICHOLS '17, JEREMY CARTER '17, JARED WHITMAN '17

The men's and women's Track & Field teams will begin their winter seasons after winter break at the Dartmouth Relays on Jan. 8. Martin Beatty '84 will coach both teams again this season, his 29th season coaching at Middlebury.

On the men's side, seven All-NESCAC performers from last spring return this season: Alex Nichols '17 (the school's outdoor 400m record-holder), Jeremy Carter '17, Jimmy Martinez '19 (the indoor 400m record-holder), Michael Pallozzi '18, Kevin Serrao (the indoor and outdoor 800m record-holder), Jared Whitman '17 and Brendan Wood '17. James Mulliken '18, the indoor 500m and 600m record-holder, and John Natalone '19, the indoor pole vault record-holder, also return.

On the women's side, 10 All-NESCAC performers from last spring return this season: Isabella Alfaro '18, Kate McCluskey '18, Paige Fernandez '17, Brianna Bisson '18 Alexis Jakubowski '19, Lucy Lang '19 (the indoor 500m record-holder), Emily Mellen '17, Devon Player '18, Kreager Taber '19 and Abigail Nadler '19. Nadler also finished sixth-place at the 2016 NCAA Outdoor Championships and earned All-American honors.

2015-16 NESCAC FINISH: W 4TH, M 7TH
CAPTAINS: WOMENS: MORGAN BURKE '17, MASAMI COOKSON '17, NORA O'LEARY '17 MENS: MICHAEL MCGEAN '17, ANDREW GRANT '17, ERIC STANTON '17

The men's and women's swimming teams aim to improve upon their finish in last year's NESCAC Championships, when the men's team finished seventh and the women's team finished fourth. Bob Rueppel, the 2015-2016 NESCAC Women's Coach of the Year, will coach both teams for his sixth season at Middlebury.

Freestyle specialist Morgan Burke '17 returns for the women's team with a part of four school relay records and experience at the NCAA Championships, where she swam in the 100 and 200 freestyle races. Isabel Wyer '18 will attempt to defend her title in the 200 and 500 freestyle races at NESCACs. She also competed at NCAAs last season, where she earned All-American honors for her fifth-place finish in the 500.

Team captain Michael McGean '17, who owns the school record in the 1,000 freestyle and won the 1,650 freestyle at NESCACs last season, will lead the men's side. Other men returning of note include Andrew Grant '17, Eric Stanton '17, Noel Antonisse '17, Connor McCormick '18 and Jack McLaughlin '18. Diver Will Greene '19 returns after finishing fifth in both the one-meter and three-meter events at NESCACs.

Design by Julia Hatheway
Contributing and senior writers:
Claire Messersmith, Sebastian Sanchez, Philip Bohlman, Will Case, Colby Morris, Andrew Rigas

Quidditch Team Hosts Middlebury Classic

By Sarah Asch
Senior Writer

Middlebury Quidditch hosted its first major tournament in five years last Sunday: the Middlebury Classic.

On Nov. 13 on Battell Beach, Middlebury's quidditch team hosted the University of Vermont, Champlain College, SUNY New Paltz and a few students from Vassar at the Classic. The tournament started with round robin play in the morning before moving to a knock-out round after lunch. Andrew Plotch '18.5, one of the tri-commissioners of Middlebury Quidditch, said he hopes this tournament will help re-start the student body's passion for quidditch.

"This is our first major tournament in five years with schools from outside Vermont," Plotch said. "We wanted to bring quidditch home and work to reinvigorate quidditch culture at Middlebury. There used to be over a half- dozen teams on campus and we hosted 22 teams at the third World Cup in 2009. I hope that we can bring back some of that enthusiasm for the sport."

Quidditch Club President Brittany Parker '17 also wants to regain the popularity the sport once enjoyed at the College.

"The main reason we decided to host a tournament this year was that when I took over as President this year, I really wanted to make Quidditch big at Middlebury again," Parker said. "It used to be a huge deal and every Commons had a team that played against each other but obviously this has faded a lot over time."

Collegiate quidditch, adapted from J.K. Rowling's best-selling *Harry Potter* series, was invented at the College in 2005 by Alex Benepe '09 and his roommate Xander Manshel '09.

"One week after a lunchtime discussion about fictional sports, Xander suggested we should try to play quidditch and outlined our first rules for the game," Benepe said. "We invited our whole hall out. It was quite successful in its first year."

When quidditch first started at the College, it was part of a robust campus culture. In its early days, quidditch only existed at the College. By 2007, according to the International Quidditch Association's website, the Middlebury team had played in its first intercollegiate tournament. By 2008, the World Cup included twelve teams and the Association (IQA) was officially founded in 2010 as a nonprofit business. In 2011 the IQA organized a World Cups with almost a hundred teams from all over the world.

Now, the IQA handles international regulation and development and serves 20 quidditch leagues including U.S. Quidditch. Benepe helped to found the IQA and is still a board member of U.S. Quidditch (USQ).

Despite its foundational ties to IQA and USQ, the Middlebury Quidditch Club withdrew from the leagues in 2012 after winning their fifth championship.

"I greatly respect Middlebury's quidditch club for choosing to focus on the fun aspects of the sport. However, I wish they would rejoin our national league," Benape said. "I think there is a way for the club to have a large, fun, intramural group that plays casually and recruit their best players to a travelling team that plays against other colleges."

The current leadership of the club has a variety of reasons for staying out of USQ. Avery Travis '18, treasurer of Middlebury Quidditch, believes that staying out of the official league makes the club more inclusive.

SARAH ASCH

Quidditch players pose with an eager spectator dressed as Harry Potter.

"If we tried to be competitive in the USQ by having more practices and cutting people who weren't good enough we would completely change the nature of the team," Travis said. "Right now anyone physically able at Middlebury can play quidditch, and we want to keep it that way."

Club organizers are also averse to the cost and resulting exclusivity that would come from rejoining USQ. They do not want cost to be a limiting factor for any student who wants to play.

"It would be very expensive for Middlebury to join the IQA, which is certainly a barrier to us," Plotch said.

Organizers also spoke to the scale of Middlebury Quidditch in comparison to other teams in the national league.

"On the national level, we can't compete with teams like Boston Quidditch Club, who pulls the best players from the city, or massive state schools like the University of Texas," Plotch said.

Several members of the team credit the lack of official affiliation with the team's inclusive culture.

"The quidditch team is, as far as I can tell, the most chill club sport on campus," Travis said. "We only practice for an hour and a half once a week, and we never kick people off for not showing up to practice or not being good enough. This also means that we consistently lose most of our tournament matches, but at the end of the day that's not what matters most. As long as we play hard and play fair we're happy on the drive home."

Quidditch also doesn't have tryouts to join, and Will Kelley '19.5 believes that reflects the club's culture as well.

"There really is no requirement for being on the quidditch team," Kelley said. "We don't have tryouts, and whoever shows up at practice, be they a team captain or a complete newbie, will be able to play, have fun and learn something. If that weren't the case, then there'd be no point in having a quidditch team."

> ***"I think there is a way for the club to have a large, fun, intramural group that plays casually and recruit their best players to a travelling team that plays against other colleges."***
>
> **ALEX BENEPE '09**
> MIDDLEBURY QUIDDITCH CO-FOUNDER

Overall, Parker believes that the Middlebury Classic was a success.

"It seemed like everyone had fun and no one got hurt – that actually happens pretty commonly at tournaments, so that was a huge success," she said. "It also gave us time to reconnect with the other teams in the area so that was fun."

Looking forward, Parker hopes to plan more events, including a Yule Ball over winter term to bring more people into the quidditch community.

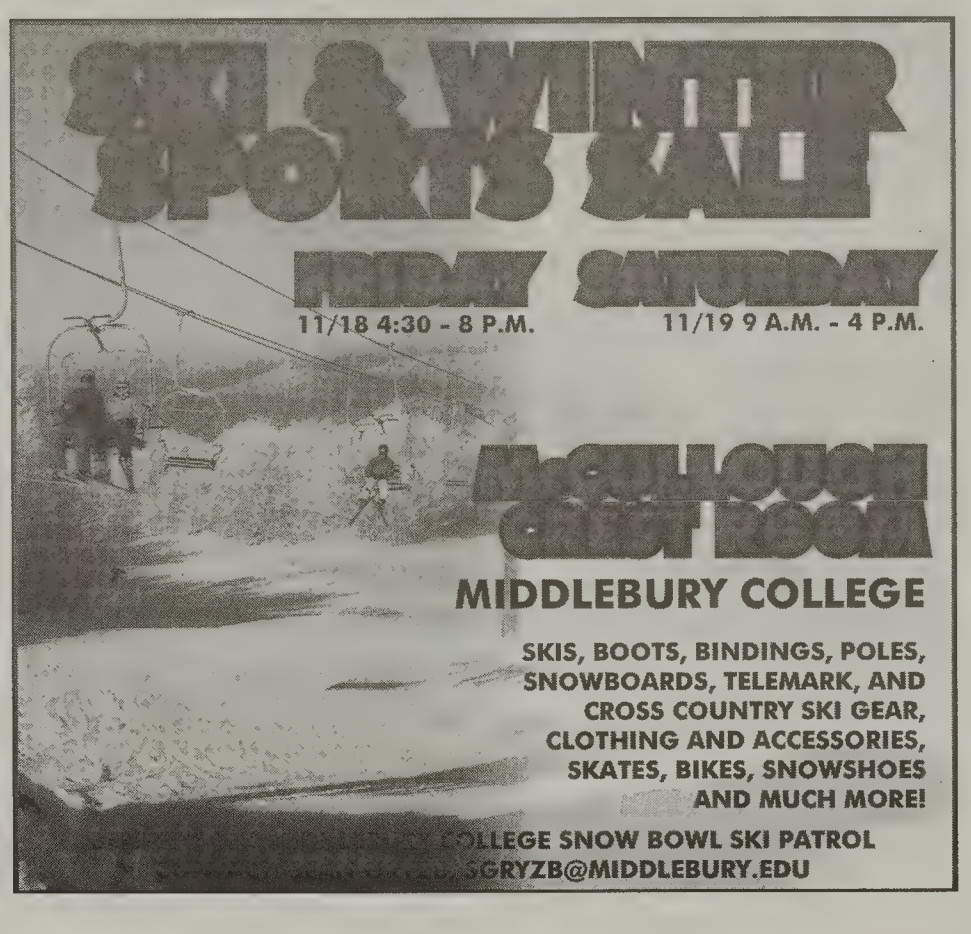
SARAH ASCH

Members of Middlebury Quidditch huddle right before the start of the tournament.

GOT AN IDEA FOR THE CAMPUS?

go/thecampusidea

SHARE IT WITH THE EDITORS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE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Presidential Election Sparks Discussion and Protests

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"[I feel] sort of cautiously optimistic, which is bad, because you want to feel hopeful that reasonably optimistic predictions from statisticians and political watchers... are solid predictions that you have faith in," Noah Liebmiller '17.5 said. "But at the same time, there's a lot of self-doubt. I would hate to have my hopes crushed at the end of the day. One in four things happen all the time. Cubs came back from 3-1 the other day. Cavaliers came back from 3-1 in July. Nothing's ever sure."

At the same time, Liebmiller felt excited for election night and looked forward to watching the contest unfold.

"We've been waiting for this to happen for almost two years, and every day it got a little bit more intense, and so many crazy things have happened," he said. "If you're a nerd who loves politics, this is like Christmas morning, but it's only once every four years."

Charlotte Massey '18, on the other hand, did not have much optimism and half-jokingly explained her contingency plan if Donald Trump were to emerge victorious.

"We're flying to Europe tomorrow for a debate tournament, so the mindset is, if Trump wins, we're just staying there," she said.

In spite of the nerves, the atmosphere remained relaxed and congenial well into the night. Students enthusiastically grabbed free Grille food and watched as Matthew Dickinson and Bert Johnson, professors of political science, commented on the results as they rolled in. Until about 9 p.m., Dickinson and Johnson reiterated that Donald Trump had a very narrow path to victory.

And then it became clear that Trump was outperforming expectations. Dickinson and Johnson began to express surprise as states like Virginia, Michigan and Wisconsin remained extremely close with slight Trump leads.

The hum of conversation in Crossroads softened as students realized what was happening. The cheers for the few states that were called for Clinton became even louder. Conversations turned toward expressions of anger and frustration.

"It really pisses me off that it's even this close because if she wins it's still really depressing about what's happening in America," Caley Henderson '18 said.

"So many people seemed so confident, and I thought I was ready mentally for the idea that it was going to be close," Liebmiller said. "And I'm still not clear whether it's close yet, but it's starting to feel really close, and that's not a pleasant thing."

By 12 a.m., many of the students at Crossroads were thinking back to that moment that Vermont was projected and wishing the rest of the night would have gone much differently. Crossroads had closed, and Pennsylvania would soon be called for Trump.

At 3 a.m. on Wed. Nov. 9, Trump had been declared victorious and gave his acceptance speech to the nation.

"I felt that the values of America had failed those that are most vulnerable in society," Callison said later about his reaction when he realized that Trump had won.

He and several other students gathered in Crossroads again on Wednesday morning to discuss the results, express their feelings and commiserate. Political Science professors, including Johnson, Sarah Stroup, Erik Bleich and Orion Lewis, led the conversation and attempted to give students some context for the election. But even they had a challenging time making sense of the results.

"This has been one of the most extraordinary elections in memory, with a result that most political scientists would not have bet on," Johnson said later. "Those of us who study U.S. elections will now have to examine why the polling data leading up to the election was out of step with the result."

While the students had come together to watch Hillary Clinton's concession speech, the gathering ended up being a catharsis of sorts. It was a moment for students and professors alike to try to make sense of the intense emotions they were feeling.

For the rest of the week, many students and staff at the College struggled to figure out how to move forward. Some professors canceled class or delayed tests; others attempted to keep conducting business as usual. But among many students, the overriding emotions were confusion and sadness. Some professors and staff who have worked at the College for many years compared it to the days after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks; others were shocked at the depth of the emotional response from students.

> ***"I have not seen our campus so paralyzed. Optimism and articulation were suspended. Our first years are navigating this historic moment in a new environment. Usually I can find some evidence and arguments from political science to these events, but we all got it wrong -- which requires some humility."***
>
> **SARAH STROUP**
>
> **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Johnson perceived the same strong, passionate reaction from students. "The state of alarm on campus is something I have not seen before in my twelve years here," he said. "I can understand why many are concerned with the result, and to be frank, I share many of their concerns."

As a result of the election, the College organized several different opportunities later in the week for students and faculty to come together. During one such event, which took place on Friday, Nov. 11, members of the College community broke up into small groups to converse and reflect on the election and how to move forward.

In one group, the participants talked about the different ways that people might get active to make a change, the ability of faculty to take a stance against certain political rhetoric and how people might deal with the despair and hopelessness they feel. The participants agreed to be anonymous, but they all expressed an appreciation for the cathartic effect of the meetings.

For many, the willingness of students to engage in difficult and rewarding discussions at events like this was a particularly bright spot in an otherwise tough week.

"I have been surprised at and comforted by the range of conversations I have had," Stroup said. "Yes, these are based on little sleep and half-formed thoughts, but people have reached out to discuss and deliberate."

In response to the results, President of the College Republicans Club, Hayden Dublois '17, emphasized the crucial importance of being there for those who are marginalized or scared by a Trump presidency.

"Even as a Republican, I'm disgusted by Donald Trump and disagree with his policies. But rather than rioting, I think there is a two-fold response that is more effective. First, be there for those who feel marginalized and scared by a Trump presidency," said Dublois in an email to the *Campus*. "Second, oppose Donald Trump's policies that you disagree with. Call your Congressman or Senator; donate to an interest group; join an advocacy organization — whatever you have to do to oppose the particular policies you disagree with."

> ***"Call your Congressman or Senator; donate to an interest group; join an advocacy organization — whatever you have to do to oppose the particular policies you disagree with."***
>
> **HAYDEN DUBLOIS '17**
>
> **CO-PRESIDENT OF COLLEGE REPUBLICANS CLUB**

As the days passed, sadness and confusion transformed into anger and a desire to act. In conjunction with several students, Travis Wayne Sanderson '19 helped plan and organize an election protest, which was held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 13 outside Mead Memorial Chapel. Sanderson thought of the idea after taking note of similar events at different campuses. He saw it as a good method to transfer our community's emotions into a constructive goal.

The Facebook event page, which garnered interested from over two hundred students, read: "Our presidential election has ended in terror for the lives and livelihoods of millions of marginalized people. We cannot sit still in a time of injustice. On Sunday, our Middlebury community will gather at the front steps of Mead Chapel to stand together against racism, fascism, hatred and all forms of oppression. We hope you can join us in standing up in this moment of history."

Students eagerly gathered around the steps of Mead Chapel right at 4 p.m., with the crowd gradually growing as the protesters made their way down toward Davis Memorial Library. Many students held cardboard signs with slogans reading, "Not My President," "Stronger Together" and "Love Trumps Hate." The crowd, comprised of roughly 250 students, chanted as they then made their way across campus from Davis to McCardell Bicentennial Hall. Two of the chants that echoed across campus were "Immigration, Not Deportation" and "Build Bridges, Not Walls."

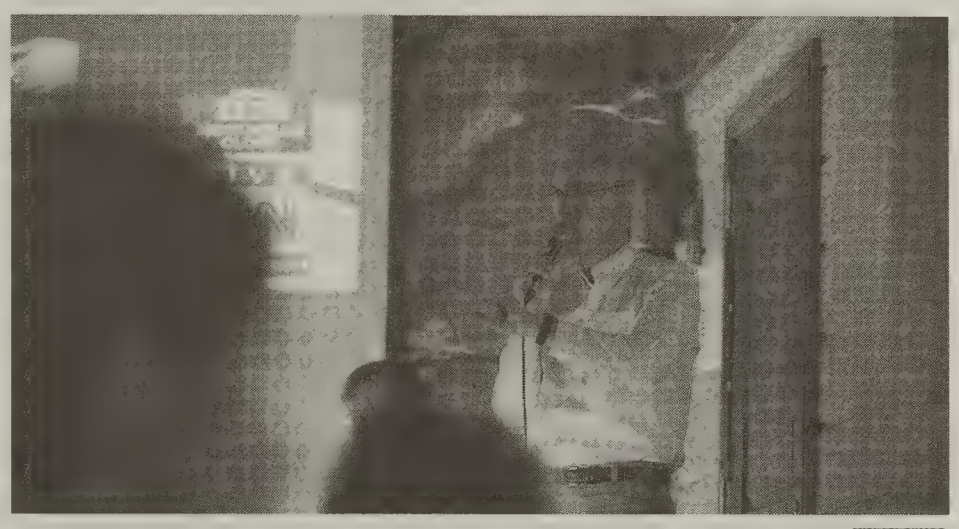
Back on the steps of Mead, Sanderson took the stage first. Several speakers followed Sanderson, offering individual stories touching upon topics ranging from immigration reform to discrimination within on our own campus.

"Overall, I'm happy with how the protest went," said Charles Rainey '19, a student representative of Community Council, who spoke at the event. "The message is clear — we have a passionate subset of the population, a diverse group of kids that came out to really show that love trumps hate, that black lives matter, that the pussy grabs back and that we stand in solidarity with LGBTQ+ folks. I hope that this leads to a broader discussion for how these values we hold dear, and our feelings about the election, can be translated back on campus and make this campus a more inclusive one."

As part of his speech, Rainey read two poems by Hanif Willis-Abdurraqib. He emphasized the need to cultivate constructive conversation moving forward.

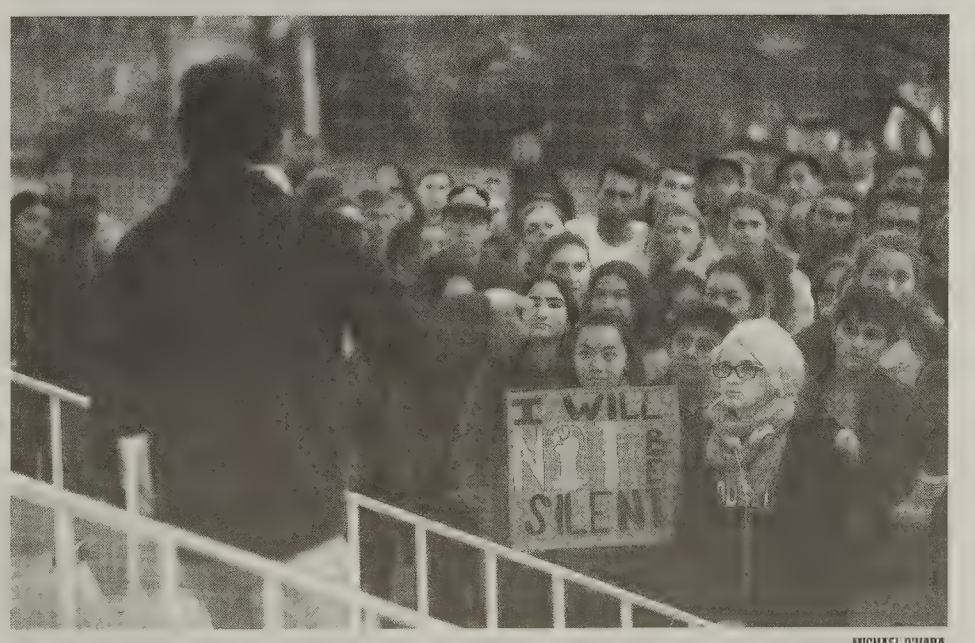
Moving beyond the protest, Sanderson envisions cultural organizations, as well as other student groups active in inclusivity, helping to continue the dialogue on a more permanent basis. However, he recognizes that this is a democratic effort.

"The conversations that have to be cultivated in the next months and years rely on people and organizations not only hosting them and making the spaces for them, but also on people in dining halls and other spaces making sure there isn't a tolerance for intolerance in this place," said Sanderson. "Even if you're not directly involved, there's space to be more inclusive and more of an exception to the dominant narrative of intolerance that has taken the nation since last week."



MICHAEL O'HARA

Professor of Political Science Bert Johnson provided commentary on the election to students who gathered in Crossroads Cafe on Nov. 8 to watch the results come in.



MICHAEL O'HARA

Travis Sanderson '19 spoke on Nov. 13 to students protesting the election of Donald Trump. They marched through campus chanting slogans such as "Not My President".

TEDxMidd Talks "Playing the Game"

By Sabine Poux
Contributing Writer

What is feminist glaciology? How should we talk about intersectionality? Can graffiti bring people together? Is there a solution to mass incarceration?

These are just some of the many questions that were addressed at the TEDx-Middlebury event on Sunday, Nov. 13. The event, hosted in the Mahaney Center for the Arts (MCA), brought together seven live and two previously recorded speakers in three hour-long sessions. The speakers' topics covered a range of ideas but all fit under the umbrella theme of "Playing the Game."

The theme encompassed the different ways in which we navigate and play "the game," and to each speaker this meant something different. Some interpretations were abstract while some were literal, creating a fascinatingly diverse arrangement of talks.

The conference was a function of TEDx, a branch of the TED conferences. TEDx offers independently organized events that amplify the sharing of "ideas worth spreading" in communities. The informative and entertaining TEDx talks, covering a wide range of subjects, allow speakers to communicate to the audience their novel ideas and passions in an enthralling way.

The student-run TEDxMiddlebury board, a branch of the Center for Creativity, Innovation & Social Entrepreneurship (CCISE), was the brain behind the conference. The TEDxMiddlebury volunteers and board members worked extremely hard to choose the theme, contact potential speakers and organize the event. Their efforts were evident in the enormous success of the event.

This year's TEDxMiddlebury event was split into three sessions. Each speaker spoke for 18 minutes, and many used projected images to supplement their talks. The talks were followed by student-led discussions, as audience members commented and reflected on the speakers' talks.

The afternoon began with Kaamila Mohamed's talk, entitled "Intersecting Identities and Space Making." Mohamed referenced their identity as a black genderqueer Muslim to show how these identities do not need to exist in separate spheres. Instead, they drew upon intersectionality to find peace with themself, and promoted a powerful message about self-acceptance and love.

Mohamed was followed by Sarah Finnie Robinson, a Breadloaf School of English alumnus. In her talk, "The Game of Our Lives," Robinson referred to the election and other recent political and environmental contexts in order to destroy the idea that climate change is a belief and not a fact. She praised the College for its environmental efforts, but acknowledged that there is more that needs to be done.

Reshma Saujani came next with her pre-recorded talk, "Teach Girls Bravery, Not Perfection." Saujani is the Founder and CEO of the tech organization, Girls Who Code. In her discussion, Saujani criticized society for teaching girls to be perfect but failing to encourage female bravery and ambition. She cited this as a source of the deficit of girls in STEM careers, and encouraged a shift in the way we address girls and their work.

After a 15-minute break we heard from Will Kasso, with his talk entitled "Colors." Kasso, who grew up in the inner city of Trenton, New Jersey, used art as a way to escape the criminal activity of his neighborhood in his youth. Through graffiti, he not only found a community of artists, but also a profession he loved — he is now a professional visual artist. While on stage, Kasso did a live painting, and his talk was so well-received by the audience that it earned a standing ovation.

Adam Foss's pre-recorded talk, "A Prosecutor's Vision for a Better Justice System" came next. Foss, a prosecutor in Boston, discussed the importance of keeping people out of jail. Offering real and educational solutions, he said, will end the self-fulfilling prophecy of returning to jail over and over again throughout one's life and will break individuals out of the prison system and propel them into more productive lifestyles.

Next came speaker Mattie Brice, with "Using Play for Everyday Activism." Brice discussed using video games for change and how she has engineered video games to help her friends understand her battles with depression. In this way, video games have been an important avenue of social action for her.

The conference resumed after the second break with Gabbie Santos '17. Santos is an International Politics and Economics (IPE) major at the College. He competed for a spot at the conference against many other students and told himself that if he won he would come out to his parents — hence the title of his talk, "Go Big and Call Home." Santos spoke of his experiences as a transgender male and critiqued the gender binary and heteronormativity that are embedded in society. Santos received a standing ovation from his peers.

JOSE TOLLENS

Gabbie Santos '17 discusses his transgender identity and experiences at TEDx

"I like to imagine a block," said Santos, "with a spectrum on it that we cut into two parts, then four, then eight and we keep cutting and cutting and cutting until the parts are so small, the divisions so thin, that when we take a step back, we can no longer tell that there any divisions at all. It begins to look like one whole block again, a fluid spectrum."

Next, Marco Mezzavilla, a research fellow in engineering at the NYU Polytechnic School of Engineering gave a talk entitled, "Wireless, Faster, Closer: 5G and Beyond." He discussed the implications of up-and-coming 5G technology and travelled through the different generations of cell phones and Internet access. He tied these ideas to the importance of connecting worlds and how incredible it is that we can send messages across oceans "in a blink of an eye."

Taking a different interpretation of the same theme was M. Jackson, with "Glacier, Gender, and Science: We Need More Stories of Ice." Jackson described her experiences as a feminist glaciologist and the extensive criticism she has received towards her unique career. She discussed the necessity of having both female and male glaciologists in order to produce a well-rounded knowledge of the study. She proceeded to take this thought beyond glaciology and said it represents a greater indication of how we treat women in science and beyond.

Jackson's talk about feminist glaciology resonated strongly with one student in particular, Georgia Grace Edwards '18.

"I have always been obsessed with TED Talks," said Edwards. "But I never expected to feel such a deep, meaningful level of connection like that which I experienced during M's talk."

"This past summer," continued Edwards, "I worked for a helicopter company as a glacier guide on the Mendenhall Glacier in Juneau, Alaska, and I experienced so many of the gendered assertions that M voiced. However, in the moment, I didn't know how to make sense of them and I didn't understand what they meant in terms of a bigger picture."

Jackson's talk helped Edwards see the sexism she faced over the summer through a new lens and to realize the stigma surrounding female glacier guides.

"All my male co-workers had these big, scruffy beards and just looked like your typical rugged, Alaskan mountain men," Edwards reflected. "And I think for tourists, that was the idea and the expectation they had in mind when they decided to come to Alaska. So no matter how many times I gave a more informative or energizing or funny tour, no matter how many times I gave my own gloves up to tourists or went the extra mile for them in any way (which the guys never did), I was never going to measure up to the masculine ideal that parallels the 'man conquers glacier' narrative."

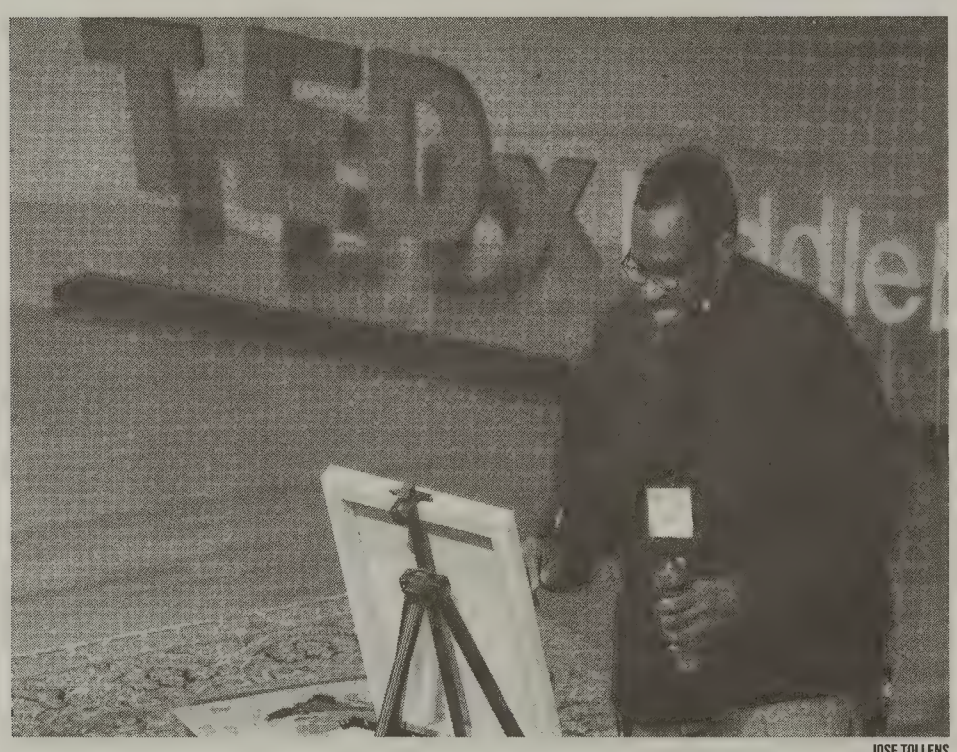
"And sure enough," Edwards continued, "while I did make more in tips than any other female glacier guide, I did not even come close to that of my male counterparts. To have seemingly small observations like this one validated at the intersection of science and gender studies by a professional in the field of 'feminist glaciology' — which I had no idea even existed — was both liberating and relieving. I am incredibly grateful to Middlebury and to the TEDx team for bringing this speaker to campus, and for inspiring what may potentially become a new career goal for me."

As Edwards's revelation demonstrates, these talks offered unique connections between the speakers and the audience.

"TED Talks are an expression of something that you're really into and love," said Brice. "While I've always had these ideas in my head, I really got to communicate them to others, which forced me to shrink them down and make them concise and strong and factual."

Santos added, "Speaking at TEDxMiddlebury was a very powerful experience, and I am very grateful for the opportunity. I came back from my year abroad in France, and I felt so ready and excited to share my most authentic self with our college community, especially as it is my senior year and days feel numbered. In important ways, my talk meant more to me than just any speech or any performance."

The event's nine individual talks were conducive to a deeply personal offering and receiving of ideas. The vulnerability of the speakers created intimacy in the theater, which made the event all the more meaningful. From climate change to video games to transexuality, the audience experienced a host of topics and was left to ruminate on a wide and range of ideas.



JOSE TOLLENS

Speaker, Will Kasso, performed a live painting during his talk on visual art.

DON'T MISS THIS

What's My Career Path?
Middlebury Women Leaders present: A Panel Discussion with peer students who have had experience in a variety of industries from health professions, STEM careers, consulting, education, entrepreneurship to arts and media.
11/18, FRIDAY, 4:30 P.M., RAJ CONFERENCE ROOM

Middlebury College Community Chorus
The chorus presents its annual concert in celebration of the season of Thanksgiving, performed b y Middlebury College students, staff, faculty and singers from towns throughout the area. The program includes settings of psalms alongside uplifting songs.
11/19 SATURDAY, 7-9 P.M., 11/20 SUNDAY, 3-5 P.M., MCA CONCERT HALL

Howard E. Woodin ES Colloquium Series
Jessica E. Jay, land conservation attorney and law professor, is giving a lecture titled "If Perpetual is not Forever: Emerging Challeneges and Opportunities in Land Conservation." Jay will speak on sonservation easements used to protect private property.
11/17 THURSDAY, 12:30 - 1:20 P.M., HILLCREST 103

Oculus Rift Headset Astounds Students

By Asher Dale
Contributing Writer

If you've ever wanted to float above Earth like an astronaut, craft a sculpture without using an ounce of material or walk through a house that hasn't been built yet, then virtual reality is for you. Recently, Hans Goudey '19.5 and I met with the College's Senior Curricular Innovation Strategist Joseph Antoniolo to try on the Oculus Rif, which is the first widely accesible virtual reality device. We went on to discuss the implications of new reality technologies and the benefits of virtual reality for students at the College and the world at large.

It is important to note that the term virtual reality can be split into two separate terms, mixed reality and virtual reality. Mixed reality technology, as seen in Pokémon Go, lets you place virtual objects in the real world. These virtual objects can interact with the physical world. For instance, if you drop a virtual piece of paper, it will land on your desk. Virtual reality technologies, such as the Oculus Rift and HTC Vive, create a completely new world before your eyes.

During our meeting, I got to try out a Solar System simulator, which gave me a tour of our solar system. I flew around in a spaceship and could actually see the proportions of the planets, their moons and the sun with respect to each other.

Meanwhile, Goudey tested out a virus-fighting game, where he moved his head to dodge or hit objects as he zoomed along a part of a human cell. He also watched a short 360° film that took him around the world in high-definition video. One second he was experiencing the culture of India, the next he was inches away from a dinosaur and then he was flying above the Earth. Both of us were completely amazed.

The fundamental aspect of this technology is that it places the user into another world.

When discussing how virtual reality can be used to walk through a digital architectural model, Antoniolo said, "You get a sense of how you fit into the space. You're not looking at a blueprint or at a video. You're actually in the space ... you can walk the space and get a feel for how you use it."

This seems simple, but the implications are revolutionary. Architects can use virtual reality to walk through a model of a building they plan to build. Sculptors can plan their work based on how it looks and how it fits into a space. Car manufacturers can understand how the inside of a car feels before they build it. Maybe people building commercial planes can see how little legroom there is before it's too late and they've already built it. The ability to simply experience something before you build it has many applications.

"You get a sense of how you fit into the space. You're not looking at a blueprint or a video. You're actually in the space... you can walk the space and get a feel for how you use it."

TIMOTHY CASE
GEOGRAPHER AND LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Virtual reality also opens a huge realm of possibility for the art of video. Think about the last movie, music video or documentary you watched that brought you to tears, made your jaw drop with amazement or even left you scared for the next few days. Now imagine that experience squared. With the advent of 360° high definition 3D video, you can use virtual reality to be immersed in a virtual world that feels completely real. This is a new and evolved art form that's only just emerged.

Naturally, playing video games in VR is one of the biggest motivations for the technology. The immersion that comes from being in the world of your game completely changes the experience of an ordinary video game. You can actually experience flying in a space ship or walking through a fantasy world. Using your hands, you can build structures, shoot a bow and arrow or guide a plane to a landing strip.

WILLIAM WEI

The College purchased an Oculus Rift, a virtual reality headset, for curricular use.

During our conversation, Antoniolo was keen to emphasize the effect of this technology on the news industry. He told us to imagine experiencing sports from the field. Also, seeing as Facebook bought Oculus, we can expect some sort of social platform that uses virtual reality in the near future.

NASA is using mixed reality to more comprehensively train their astronauts. The educational aspect of this technology is also in development. Imagine taking kids back to the world and time of the dinosaurs to teach them in an exciting and effective way. This technology is just the humble beginnings of a world changing phenomenon.

"That's why we have it here. We're tying to figure out how we can use this in the cirriculum. And the more people try it out and think of ideas for what to do with it, great. We're here to support it."

TIMOTHY CASE
GEOGRAPHER AND LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER

Near the end of our conversation with Antoniolo, we discussed what students at the College can do right now with virtual and mixed reality. Because we only have one Oculus Rift on campus, we are restricted.

To that, Antoniolo said, "That's why we have it here. We're trying to figure out how we can use this in the curriculum. And the more people try it out and think of ideas for what to do with it, great, we're here to support it... we're not sure what the interest is."

We talked about the possibility of being able to check out a virtual or mixed reality headset from circulation in the library, or have a room with two or three headsets always present. Antoniolo was excited about either of those possibilities. If you're interested in virtual reality, I urge you to contact Joseph Antoniolo and try the Oculus Rift. It will open your eyes to an entirely new world.

BOOKING IT

THE TALE OF MURASAKI BY LIZA DALBY

By Gabrielle Owens
Senior Columnist

In the early 11th century in Japan, a woman known as Murasaki Shikibu wrote *The Tale of Genji*, a work often cited as the world's first novel. It tells the story of a prince's romantic life, following his exploits as a lover to many different women.

Murasaki herself was born into the lower ranks of Japanese aristocracy, and worked as an imperial lady-in-waiting later in life. In addition to Genji, she left behind a fair amount of personal writing, including a diary and collection of poems. Liza Dalby pulls from these – as well as the diaries and other sources from the Japanese court at the time – to imagine Murasaki's life in her novel.

The Tale of Murasaki is a slow and meditative novel, dwelling for long periods on descriptions of the culture and customs of Japan at the time. While it can certainly be dramatic, it is first and foremost the story of a remarkable woman's life. This is not a page-turner or an exciting, light read, and requires that you have at least some interest in simply inhabiting the world of an 11th century Japanese aristocrat, pausing to smell the flowers and take in the scenery.

That is not to say that you need to know the culture beforehand – I thoroughly enjoyed the book with little to no prior knowledge of that particular time and place. Though the thoroughness in Dalby's descriptions and explanations of 11th century Japanese culture may slow down the novel too much for some, she never leaves the reader in the dark about what is going on or why. If you are looking for a carefully crafted, meticulously researched and wonderfully written book that may also be a change of pace and setting from what you are used to, *The Tale of Murasaki* is a good candidate.

Dalby is creative and playful in filling in the blanks of history while still using her source material as much as possible: She pulls heavily from Murasaki's diary, while still including a great deal of fictionalized events. The short poems from her collection intersperse the novel, a symbol and a reminder of how important writing and poetry were to Murasaki throughout her life. Many of these works appear at key emotional moments, serving as Murasaki's best method to express herself to others. Although I imagine they read far better in the original Japanese, in English they still retain gorgeous imagery and subtle layers of meaning that peek through the lyrical language.

The power of writing and education are central themes to the novel, with the exceptionally intelligent Murasaki spending much of her young life struggling to defend her right to study and learn before being given the opportunity to apply what she has learned. Writing is her solace and her pride. She is a brilliant, impressive woman, and it is a treat to let Dalby take you on the journey of imagining how she might have found her inspiration and struggled to make her writing succeed.

If you are looking for a carefully crafted, meticulously researched and wonderfully written book that may also be a change of pace and setting from what you are used to,* The Tale of Murasaki *is a good candidate.

As a life story, *The Tale of Murasaki* is moving. You travel with Murasaki from her years as a young woman brimming with plans and possibilities, and watch how she changes as some of those dreams come true, some are dashed and some are achieved in ways that she never anticipated or even wanted. The transformation is gradual, so that you hardly notice how different she has become until you look back chapters later and realize you are no longer reading about the same person that you met at the beginning of the book. It is, in that way, very true to life: Her evolution as a person feels very natural and real. There is a sense of melancholy toward the end of the book as you realize Murasaki's life is drawing to a close, because she is such an excited and hopeful character at the start. Still, there is no one overarching emotion that can be prescribed to this book, just as there is no one overarching emotion that applies to anyone's life. It is too varied and multifaceted, filled with triumphs and losses in equal measure, for that.

Dalby masterfully brings you inside the head of this woman so far removed from us in time, in space, in culture. You fall in love alongside her, struggle with her, get swept up in the petty politics of gossip and the far more serious struggles of the imperial court and sink into the words of her poetry and writing. It is, overall, a beautiful and moving piece of writing about an incredible woman. Find it at the library through go/bookingit.

MIDD MOUTH: FEATURING IRENE MARIGOTTA

By Matthew Blake
Featuring Irene Marigotta

This week's Midd Mouth poet is Irene Marigotta '19.

Irene is a sophomore from Mendham, New Jersey. She is an English major and Education Studies minor, a member of the softball team and a part of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. She has a very large extended family, and many of them are educators. As such, Irene is looking forward to continuing on the path towards becoming both a teacher and a coach.

IRENE MARIGOTTA

Irene Marigotta is this week's featured poet.

Here are some of Irene's reflections on her creative process and her relationship with the written word:

Matthew Blake (MB): How would you describe your creative process?

Irene Marigotta (IM): Some of the earliest memories that I have from school are of me writing in those old black and white composition notebooks. I've always loved reading and writing, and it has stuck with me all these years. I started writing poetry in high school, and I would describe my creative process to be very introspective and personal. Many of my older pieces were simply representations of what was happening around me at the time, and I used poetry as a kind of outlet. Now, I like to play around with form, meter and rhyme, and I try to come up with characters to base my work off of. My main goal is to create something that people can relate to.

MB: How would you describe your relationship to poetry?

IM: I've had a pretty strong relationship with poetry since I was little. My mom used to read me *The Best Loved Poems* of Jacqueline Kennedy-Onassis when I was little, which was a collection that included poems written by Jackie Kennedy herself along with Langston Hughes, Emily Dickinson and William Carlos Williams. Those poets are still some of my favorites. I've written and read poetry during good times and bad, and it has just been something I've been really passionate about for a long time.

Memories

They come in flashes.
Like lightning.
Jolting, unwelcome.

They come in pieces.
A puzzle.
Troubling, uninvited.

They come in darkness.
Like shadows.
Fleeting, unsettling.

They come in weakness.
A reminder.
All knowing, unforgotten.

They wreak havoc.
The pain.
Physical, unbearable.

They bring anger.
The confusion.
Frustrating, palpable.

They carry sadness.
The feelings.
Raw, unleashed.

But everyday I get through them.
For I know that the day will come.
Finally, one day

They'll reflect joy.
A moment.
Captured by love.

They'll bring realization.
A mindset.
Defined by freedom.

They'll mean growth.
A strength.
Now that I've moved on from you.

Art Trumps Hate Open Mic Night

By Dominick Tanoh
Arts and Sciences Editor

Over the course of last week, news of Donald Trump's election to the presidency of the United States cast deep fears throughout campus. As the College and country awoke to face the reality of the next four years, fear and loathing soon mixed with an urgent need amongst many students to reach out and foster a sense of community for those most affected by the inflammatory rhetoric and policies present throughout his campaign.

On Sunday, Nov. 14, the Gamut Room joined in this spirit of mutual support through its "Art Trumps Hate" open mic night.

Acknowledging that "people felt real concerns and even fear," primary organizer Karlo Škarica '17 set out to "provide a platform to express those sentiments."

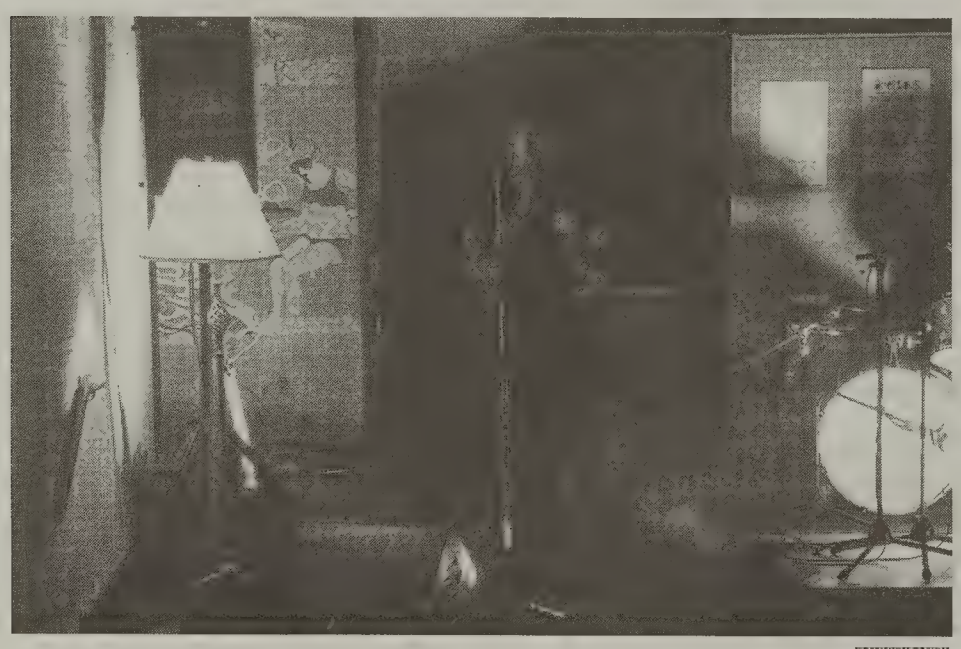
Aided by Ben Rose '17.5 and Bjorn Petersen '15.5, Škarica sought to create another venue for inclusive expression and noted that he was "pleasantly surprised with the variety of voices heard, which in their tone ranged from concerned and angry to comforting and supporting."

Over the course of the night, the sheer range of voices and perspectives stood out as a powerful reminder of the diverse assortment of people on campus as they unified in their use of art as a means of building solidarity.

Performances began with songs by Gemma Laurence '19.5, including an original song that shared her fears on the peril our environment faces. Will Kelley '19, Lorena Neira '17, Ben Rose '17.5 and Bjorn Petersen '15.5 also stepped forward to share their own songs of protest and hope. Farid Noori '18 began his performance by sharing a poignant note on how his country faced its own conservative backlash after taking rapid steps towards modernization and progressive policies early in the 20th century. He then sang an Afghani song that wished peace on the cities of the world.

DOMINICK TANOH

Gemma Laurence '19.5 prepares to perform an original song at the Gamut Room event.



DOMINICK TANOH

Farid Noori '18 prefaces his song with a turbulent chapter from Afghani history.

Poems by Charles Rainey '19 captured an aspect of the pain and anger that inflammatory rhetoric and continued abuses have sparked throughout the African American community. Student bands *Dross Theory* and *The Big Sip* rounded out the diverse lineup.

From the beginning of the event the link between political engagement and performance art became another powerful theme.

Škarica shared his thoughts on the "precious interaction that happens between the world of politics and art" and how this is "not the time to disregard it."

As the night went on, it became clear that, for many, the spirit of support had become fused with an active spirit of resistance to any attempts to further disenfranchise marginalized groups. The event's timing soon after a protest march further emphasized the tone of communal resistance against the spirit of discrimination that was often highlighted through this election cycle. By the end, the event emerged as another aspect of the diverse movements of unity that have emerged in the aftermath of emotionally trying times.

Speaker on Vermont's Opioid Response

By Isaac Ducker
Contributing Writer

On Friday, Nov. 14, Dr. Richard Rawson, professor emeritus of psychiatry from the University of California, L.A. spoke on Vermont's opioid crisis and whether the state's response has been successful.

Opioids are natural derivatives from opium or psychoactive synthetics which mimic opioids' effects. They include prescription drugs such as Vicodin, OxyContin, Percocet and codeine, to name but a few, and criminalized drugs like heroin.

The opioid problem in Vermont is arguably worse than anywhere else in the world. This is primarily due to the fact that in the first decade of this century pain doctors held the view that they were undertreating pain, and so often overprescribed opioids. This led to an avalanche of prescription drugs on the street because people were able to sell their or other relatives' overprescribed drugs.

In the early 2000s the presence of opioids increased dramatically in Vermont, New England and the greater Appalachia. By 2010, restrictions on prescription opioids resulted in increased price and decreased availability of the drugs. Concurrently, heroin availability increased and its price decreased.

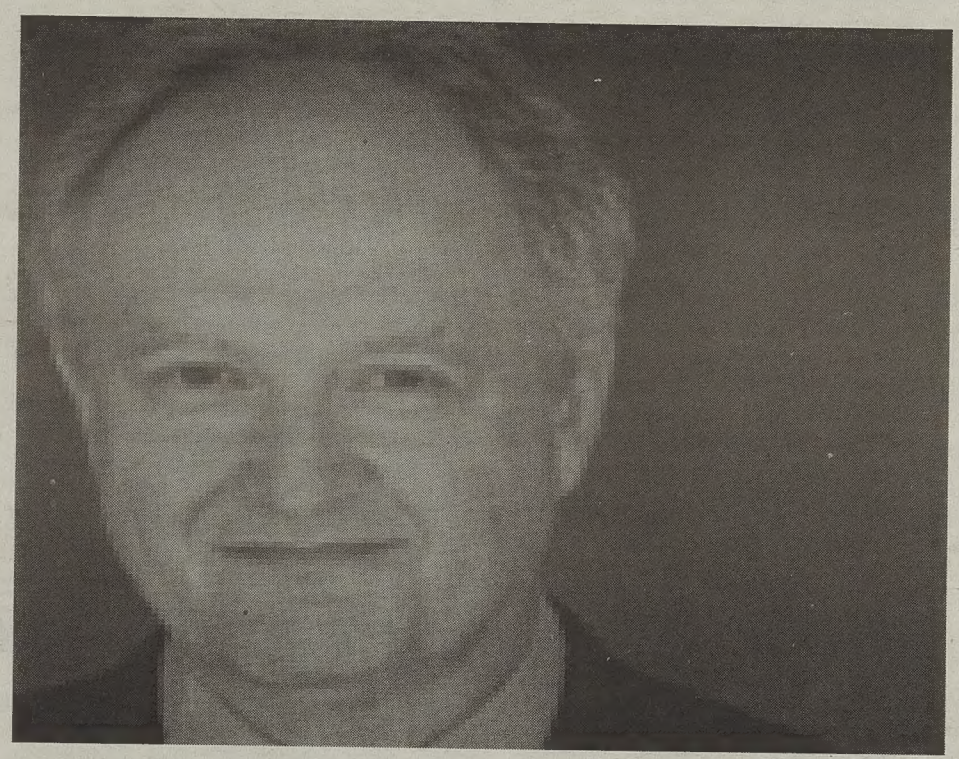
In 2015, fentanyl, an extremely fast-acting and powerful synthetic opioid began to show up in heroin sales. Then, in 2016, a drug called Carfentanil appeared in Vermont. It is ten-thousand times stronger than morphine and led to a series of horrific serial overdoses. With Carfentanil, instead of 4 or 5 overdoses in a day, police and fire departments find themselves dealing with 30, 40, or even 50 and beyond.

Treatment of opioid addiction breaks down into two essential components. The first and more controversial is harm reduction. Harm reduction is essentially a range of public health policies designed to reduce the harmful consequences associated with various human behaviors, both legal and illegal. An example in this context would be syringe exchange facilities, where users can bring in their dirty syringes and have them exchanged for clean ones. The other component of treatment of opioid addiction is recovery. Recovery is a 12-step-program, and is a voluntarily maintained life-style of sobriety.

An important shift in perspective that has occurred in response to this issue is that opioid addiction is a medical disorder - not a problem of motivation, willpower, or strength of character. Furthermore, opioid dependence is a chronic, relapsing disorder. Opioid dependency is very difficult to resolve. Thus, the state of Vermont has adopted an approach known as Medically Assisted Treatment, which involves counseling and treatment with methadone or buprenorphine to wean addicts off of the drug. It can be described as harm reduction with the goal of treatment.

Although there is a stigma against taking methadone and other such drugs because it is perceived as still taking drugs, this is largely inaccurate. Methadone and buprenorphine are partial opioid agonists, so they mimic the effects of opioids but have fewer long-term side effects, promote life-style changes, and decrease the peaks and valleys experienced by an opioid user.

Vermont has taken a revolutionary approach to harm reduction and medically assisted treatment. The state is treating the addiction as a chronic illness. Each region in the state has a specialized center, known as a hub, that is an opioid treatment program. Each hub is connected to all waivered sub Oxone doctors' offices (i.e. doctors' offices that are allowed to prescribe partial opioid agonists), and these offices are known as spokes. They all contain their own dedicated medically assisted treatment team.



UCLA DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY
UCLA Professor of Psychiatry Richard Rawson spoke on Vermont's opioid crisis.

The hubs are locations for specialty care. Addicts or recovering addicts will go to the hubs to receive treatment that they likely have been receiving for a long time such as counseling and methadone doses. Spokes are locations for general care such as dealing with overdoses and addicts who decide to take the first steps to getting clean.

This idea is revolutionary because it is the first time medically assisted treatment has been integrated into primary care. What's more, it appears statistically that it is working. Vermont's deaths per 100,000 people decreased between 2013 and 2014, whereas everywhere else has increased in New England. In fact, the New Hampshire death rate per 100,000 doubled last year. There has been an unprecedented treatment admission, with the number of people in treatment in Vermont climbing to just above seven thousand.

However, while the opioid response may be beginning to work, there is still a long way to go. There is a 5% addiction rate among adults in Vermont, which equates to about 3% of the whole population. These are staggering figures. In a general population, only about .3 to .5 percent of people are using opioids. Vermont has started on the right path, but the opioid crisis is far from over.

THE NEW OFFICIAL PIZZA OF THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

GREEN PEPPERS

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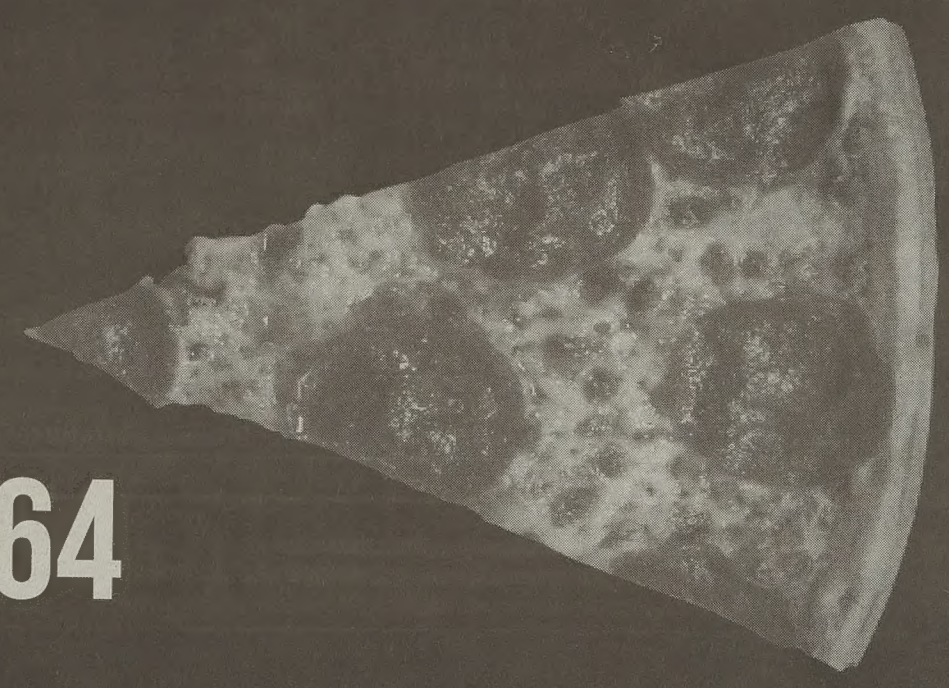

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Cross Country Teams Earn Bids to NCAA Championship

By Caroline Bartlett
Contributing Writer

The men's and women's cross-country teams are headed to the NCAA Championships, earning a bid after both teams finished fourth at NCAA Regionals over the weekend. The race, hosted by Westfield State University at Stanley Park in Westfield, Mass., consisted of 59 teams in the women's field and 56 in the men's.

The women delivered an impressive performance on Saturday. Once again, Abigail Nadler '19 led the pack for the women, placing 5th with a time of 21:26:55, which was over a minute faster than her NESCAC title-winning performance. First year Meg Wilson '20, who finished 17th at the NESCAC Championships, was next for the Panthers. She crossed the line in 31st with a time of 22:10.13. Ten spots behind her was Catie Skinner '17 with a time of 22:21.31, followed by Katherine MacCary '19 who crossed in 42nd (22:22.89).

All the women improved their times significantly from NESCACs and will look to continue to build momentum moving into the NCAA Championships.

On the men's side, the team pulled together for another strong result. The first Panther to cross the finish line was Brian Rich '17, who placed ninth with a time of 24:56.88.

"After an aggressive first mile, I settled into a conservative position and turned on my swag jets around mile four," said Rich. "I was able to hold my place for the next mile and ended up with a personal best time."

Close behind Rich was Ascencion Aispuro '18 who finished in 18th place (25:10.49), which was over a minute faster than his NESCAC Championship time. The final 3 men finished in a tight pack. Connor Evans '19 earned the 39th spot (25:34.00), followed by Brendan Wood '17 in 41st (25:35.58) and Kevin Serrao '18 in 46th (25:41.74).

The combined 4th place finish is a momentum-builder leading up to the NCAA Championships. Aispuro is confident coming into the big race.

"We knew we had to race with heart and fight the exhaustion for one reason only: a team bid for nationals," Aispuro said. "We would not let months of training go unnoticed. We showed off what we had on Saturday, but thankfully, we still feel we have a little more to give. We beat people that beat us at NESCACs, and now we aim to beat people at nationals that beat us this weekend. We aim to disprove the rankings. Next week, we aim for our best finish in the history of the program. We're not done yet. We're on the hunt."

Senior Co-Captain Rich was encouraged. "I was incredibly proud of the performance that the men's team put together on Saturday," said Rich. "We are deeply committed to running for each other, and we were able to draw on that strength to put together some impressive individual performances."

The 2016 NCAA Championships, hosted by Spaulding University and the Louisville Sports Commission, take place at the E.P. "Tom" Sawyer Park in Louisville, Kentucky on Saturday, Nov. 19. The women's race will start at 11am followed by the men at 12 p.m.

Women's Soccer Moves Forward in NCAAs

By Sebastian Sanchez
Senior Writer

Following a loss to Amherst in the semi-final game of the NESCAC tournament last weekend, Middlebury received a shot at redemption when they received an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament and on Saturday, Nov. 12 the Panthers defeated the MIT Engineers 1-0 at Stevens Institute of Technology's De Baun Athletic Complex, then defeated the host, Stevens, 2-0 on Sunday to advance to NCAA Sectionals for the first time since 2013.

With the moon hovering in the sky, the Panthers battled against the Engineers under stadium lights, their first night game of the season.

"We were all so riled up before the game," said Sara DiCenso '19. "The vibe of the NCAA tournament is so much different than the regular season. If you lose, you go home and if you win, you advance."

Middlebury looked to go ahead in the fourth minute when Amanda Dafonte '19 tried to score on an open net but a MIT defender kicked the ball away and kept the game tied 0-0. The score remained that way through the first half and Middlebury took the break to re-energize and come out firing in the second.

"At first we came out and we were having problems finding each other's feet. I think it might have been the nerves coming out," said Adrianna Gildner '17. "But after 10 minutes of play, we started connecting passes and findings ways through their defense."

Out of the halftime break, the Panther's offensive pressure turned up a notch as Gildner sent a corner kick to Claire Robinson '17 who gave a beautiful header that hit the crossbar and bounced out of harm's way.

Middlebury finally broke through in the 61st minute when Dafonte received a left-field cross from Gildner, took two steps to her left and lofted a shot over the outstretched hands of MIT's goalie to take a 1-0 lead.

After the goal, the Panthers made sure to defend their lead and while the Engineers had one final attempt in the 89th minute to tie the game, Middlebury held on. MIT saw their season come to an end, as the Panthers finished the job to move on to play Stevens, ranked 8th in the country, on Sunday, Nov. 13.

"Honestly, I think we've realized how amazing it feels to make it to the NCAA tournament," said Alissa Huntington '18. "The seniors are the only ones who have been before, so it's just an energy that is unbelievable."

The wave of momentum carried over into the following day and for the seventh time in program history, Middlebury had a chance to advance to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen round. The Panthers took advantage of that opportunity.

"We came out so fired up it was crazy," said Gildner. "The energy before the game was a mixture of nerves and flat-out excitement. We knew we were playing a top-ranked team and that fired us up even more, we are the underdogs of this tournament!"

Early on SIT had a couple of good looks, but they could not get past the hands of Ursula Alwang '17, who denied shot after shot as the Ducks could simply not capitalize on their opportunities.

The Panthers, on the other hand, just continued to roll from their victory on Saturday. Right before the end of the first half, rookie Virginia Charman '20 netted her first career goal on a beautifully-centered ball from Gildner.

In the second half, Middlebury's offense did not let up as Gildner found Robinson, who headed the ball toward the net but was cleared by a SIT defender. On the ensuing corner kick, the Panthers scored off a well-placed touch by Gildner to Charman who netted her second career goal to extend the lead to 2-0.

BETHANY BERNARD

The Middlebury women's soccer team poses after winning Sunday's NCAA Regional match against Stevens Institute of Technology. The Panthers will advance to face Messiah in the NCAA Sectionals hosted by Williams this weekend.

"It felt like a dream honestly," said Charman. "The best part was running to my teammates, jumping into their arms while they screamed and cheered me on. It was also amazing to watch us hold on to the lead. To be honest, it doesn't feel real."

The Ducks threatened several times, but Alwang was there to make each and every stop. When the final whistle blew, the Middlebury Panthers had secured a spot to the Sweet Sixteen, a feat that was uncertain only a few days ago with their season in the hands of an at-large bid.

After a weekend sweep, the Panthers will play Messiah at Williams on Saturday, November 19. In the other sectional matchup, Williams will play John Hopkins, and the winner of the two matchups will play on Sunday to determine who will advance to the Final Four.

"I couldn't be prouder of our team today," Gildner said on Sunday. "Our energy going into next week is going to be unbelievable and I am so excited for us to get after it this week!"

EDITORS' PICKS

	Men's Hockey: Will the Panthers win their season opener tomorrow night at Colby?	Women's Hockey: Will the Panthers win their season opener tomorrow night at Trinity?	Women's Soccer: Do the Panthers keep their hot streak going against Messiah (19-2) in Williamstown?	Thanksgiving Day NFL Pick 'em: Who wins the NFC North showdown - Minnesota at Detroit?
WILL CASE (49-32, .604)	NO Colby has a seasoned group. An early season loss is better than a heartbreaker later in the schedule.	YES First step in making another run at NCAAs.	YES This will set up an epic match-up with Williams in the Elite 8.	DETROIT Mombello is never a reliable source there Remo...
ANDREW RIGAS (75-51, .595)	YES It's a new team, but I think they'll surprise you two.	YES I think men's hockey will be good, I know the women will be.	YES They're peaking at the right time. Beating Williams will be another animal entirely though.	MINNESOTA Will is not holding the top spot for long.
REMO PLUNKETT (92-67, .578)	NO The team is pretty young this season, I think it'll take them a few games to find their stride.	YES Our squad absolutely runs the NESCAC.	YES Momentum is on the team's side as they continue into the postseason.	MINNESOTA Chris Mombello told me this one is a lock.

Football Drops Season Finale to Finish 6-2 in the NESCAC

By Andrew Rigas
Sports Editor

Trailing Tufts 41-7 in the third quarter, the football team fought to within 13 points with 7:46 remaining but could not get any closer to the Jumbos on Saturday, November 12, losing 48-35 in its season finale on Youngman Field at Alumni Stadium. With the loss, the Panthers ended their season 6-2 in a tie for third place with Wesleyan, behind Trinity (8-0) and Tufts (7-1).

Entering Saturday's contest, the winner needed Wesleyan to beat Trinity to secure a share of the NESCAC championship. If the Cardinals beat the Bantams, then those two would share the title with the winner of the matchup on Youngman Field between the Panthers and the Jumbos. Wesleyan went ahead 14-0, but Trinity stormed back with 42 answered points to seal its undefeated and the NESCAC championship.

In Middlebury, Tufts started with the football and marched 74 yards in six plays to take a 7-0 lead on its first drive of the game. Tufts running back Chance Brady and quarterback Ryan McDonald ran right through the Middlebury defense for 69 yards, including Brady's first of five touchdowns of the day on a one-yard rush.

Middlebury moved the ball into Tufts' territory on its first possession but had to punt after consecutive Jared Lebowitz '18 incompletions on good coverage from the Jumbos. The game was a defensive battle for the rest of the first quarter, as neither team moved the football more than 24 yards on a single drive for the rest of the quarter.

Starting from their own ten at the end of the first quarter, the Panthers tied the game at seven with a nine-play 90-yard drive. On third-and-seven from the Middlebury 13-yard line, Lebowitz found James Burke '17 for a twenty-yard gain and the first down, the Panthers first third down conversion of the game. Later in the drive, Lebowitz converted on another third down, this time by finding Diego Meritus '19 out of the backfield for a 31-yard gain down to the Tufts 31. Lebowitz struck down field on the next play, lofting the football to Frank Cosolito '20 for a 31-yard touchdown just over two minutes into the second quarter.

Tufts retook the lead on its next possession with a 41-yard field goal, then intercepted Lebowitz for the second time to set up another field goal.

Behind 13-7, the Panthers went three-and-out on their next possession, then Maxwell Rye '20's punt went only 13 yards to set the Jumbos up at the Middlebury 39. McDonald took advantage, hitting Brady for a 24-yard touchdown pass and 20-7 Tufts lead.

After another Middlebury three-and-out, Tufts needed only one play to go ahead 27-7. McDonald hit Brady on a screen pass, who went 49 yards for his third touchdown of the game.

Then once more, the Panthers went three-and-out and Tufts added another touchdown. McDonald ran it himself this time for a 30-yard touchdown run to put the Jumbos ahead 34-7 at the half.

Things looked bleak for Middlebury when Wyllis McKissick '20 fumbled the kick coming out of halftime recovered by Tufts. Off the turnover, Brady ran for his fourth touchdown of the game as the Jumbos built their largest lead of the contest.

Lebowitz and the Panthers responded with a touchdown by driving 75 yards in less than a minute. On the fifth play of the drive, Lebowitz hit Conor Banky '19 for a 26-yard touchdown.

The Panthers bottled Brady up on the ensuing possession to force a Jumbos punt. On third-and-17 from the Tufts 36, Lebowitz 14 yards then received the first down thanks to a Tufts unsportsmanlike conduct penalty. Middlebury pulled within 20 when Lebowitz threw to Meritus for an 11-yard touchdown.

The Jumbos came right back, running the football seven times for 69 yards and a touchdown, when Brady punched it in for his fifth touchdown and a 48-21 lead with 3:54 remaining in the third quarter.

After trading punts, Lebowitz hit Cosolito again, this time for a 60-yard touchdown to cut the lead to 20 with 10:22 remaining in the Middlebury season.

On third-and-three, the Middlebury defense stuffed McDonald for a loss of two to force a Tufts punt. When the Panthers got the ball back, Lebowitz mimicked the Tufts attack, by keeping the football on a read option play and running for a 34-yard touchdown to bring the Panthers within 13 of the Jumbos, 48-35, with 7:46 remaining.

The Panther defense held once more, but the offense could not continue the comeback. On fourth-and-three, Tufts sacked Lebowitz to regain the football, and the Panthers could not get any closer as the buzzer sounded on their season, with the final score showing 48-35 Tufts.

Tufts outgained Middlebury by four yards (491-487), as the teams combined for almost 1,000 yards of offense.

However, the Jumbos ran for 346 yards and possessed the football for more than 12 minutes more than the Panthers did.

Lebowitz went 28-54 passing, with 411 yards, four touchdowns and three interceptions and ran for Middlebury's other touchdown. He finished the season second all-time on Middlebury's single-season list with 29 touchdown passes and fifth with 2,580 yards.

Cosolito caught five passes for a career-high 125 yards and two touchdowns, while Banky added 100 yards and a touchdown on seven receptions. Banky's 11 touchdown receptions this season tied him for second on Middlebury's single-season list in that category, and his 925 yards are good for third.

Middlebury will lose 12 seniors from this year's team, including team captains Nate Leedy '17, Addison Pierce '17 and Andy Klarman '17. Leedy played in Middlebury's secondary in all eight games every season of his career, while Pierce only missed one game over his four years. James Burke '17 finished his career with a breakout senior season, catching 36 passes for 476 yards and six touchdowns.

This group of seniors finishes with a career record of 24-8 in the blue-and-white and one NESCAC Championship. This season marks the program's fifth straight season above .500, it's longest streak in more than 40 years.

The cupboard will be far from bare for Head Coach Bob Ritter next season as well. Both the offense and defense will return some of their top playmakers, including Lebowitz, Meritus, Banky on the offensive side and John Jackson '18, Wesley Becton '18 and Robert Wood '18 on the defensive side.

BY THE NUMB3RS

7 *NCAA Regional titles for the Middlebury women's soccer team, including last weekend's victory over Stevens.*

Total passing yards for quarterback Jared Lebowitz '18 this season. **2585**

5 *Men's soccer players that earned All-Conference honors this season. Greg Conrad '17 and Greg Sydor '17 were named to the first team.*

Career-high number of digs for Hannah Blackburn '17 in volleyball's victory over Tufts. Blackburn earned NESCAC Player of the Week honors for her performance. **29**

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM Rigas' Reasoning
1	**WOMEN'S SOCCER** *This is obvious, as their run continues.*
2	**MEN'S RUGBY** *Wow, what a turnaround for this team. It's all gravy from here on out.*
3	**CROSS COUNTRY** *Both teams finished fourth out of more than 50 teams. That's legit.*
4	**VOLLEYBALL** *Yes their season ended, but it was a great one.*
5	**FIELD HOCKEY** *They may not have done as well as last year, but they did make NCAAs for the 14th straight season.*
6	**FOOTBALL** *Another disappointing end to the season, but they continued the standard of excellence this year.*
7	**WINTER SPORTS** *Here we go!*
8	**TONY ROMO** *Gotta feel badly for the guy, plus he's on my fantasy team.*

VOLLEYBALL ENDS SEASON WITH LOSS TO ITHACA

By Colby Morris
Senior Writer

Even storybook seasons sometimes have a tough ending. The NESCAC champion Middlebury volleyball team saw their season end in a heartbreaking 3-2 loss to Ithaca College in Brockport, NY, last Friday, Nov. 11.

The Bombers came out of the gates quickly in the first game, jumping out to a 6-2 lead. The Panthers did not go down easily though, as captain Becca Raffel '18 posted a few big kills during an early serving streak from Gigi Alper '20 to get back into the contest.

Middlebury took a timeout with the score tied at 13, and went back and forth with Ithaca for the rest of the set. Raffel and Isabel Sessions '19 continued to lay down the hammer, but the Bombers were just as strong and after a 25-25 stalemate, Ithaca took the last two points and the set 27-25.

The second set would be equally frustrating. After several lead changes the advantage swung to Brockport before Sessions, Melanie English '17, and Alice Roberts '18 added several impressive kills to stay in the set.

The Panthers found themselves up 24-22, one point away from taking the second set and tying the match at one game apiece, but the Bombers caught fire and took the last four points to finish 26-24, good for a 2-0 match lead.

With their season on the line the Panthers rallied back with new, desperate energy in the third set. Second team All-NESCAC Sarah Staver '19 came in to add a kill of her own to bring the score to an early 6-6 tie, pushing the momentum back in the hands of the Panthers. Eliana Schaefer '18 added a few kills to build the lead to get in on the action and the team didn't look back from there, finishing out the set 25-21 to get the score back to 2-1.

Still only one set from elimination, the Panthers pushed the Bombers back onto their heels as they used their successful third set to carry them to an early lead in the pivotal fourth set.

They jumped out to an early 6-3 lead, thanks to another serving streak from Alper, help from Staver and Raffel at the net, and stellar defense. A big block by English and Raffel gave the NESCAC Champs a 15-13 advantage that continued into a 25-18 set win, tying the score at 2-2, setting up an epic winner-take-all fifth set.

The fifth set was college athletics at its finest. The teams battled back-and-forth through to the last point in what was an incredibly even, well played game. The Panthers kept the score even up to 14-14 in the best to 15 final test, but weren't able to finish off the Bombers.

They were up 14-11, but after five straight points by the New Yorkers, a great season came to an end. First team All-NESCAC Raffel finished out her dominant junior campaign with 18 kills and 10 digs. Second team All-NESCAC and fellow outside hitter Sessions had 13 kills of her own, and Alper led the team with 17 digs, finishing out her defensively fantastic first season.

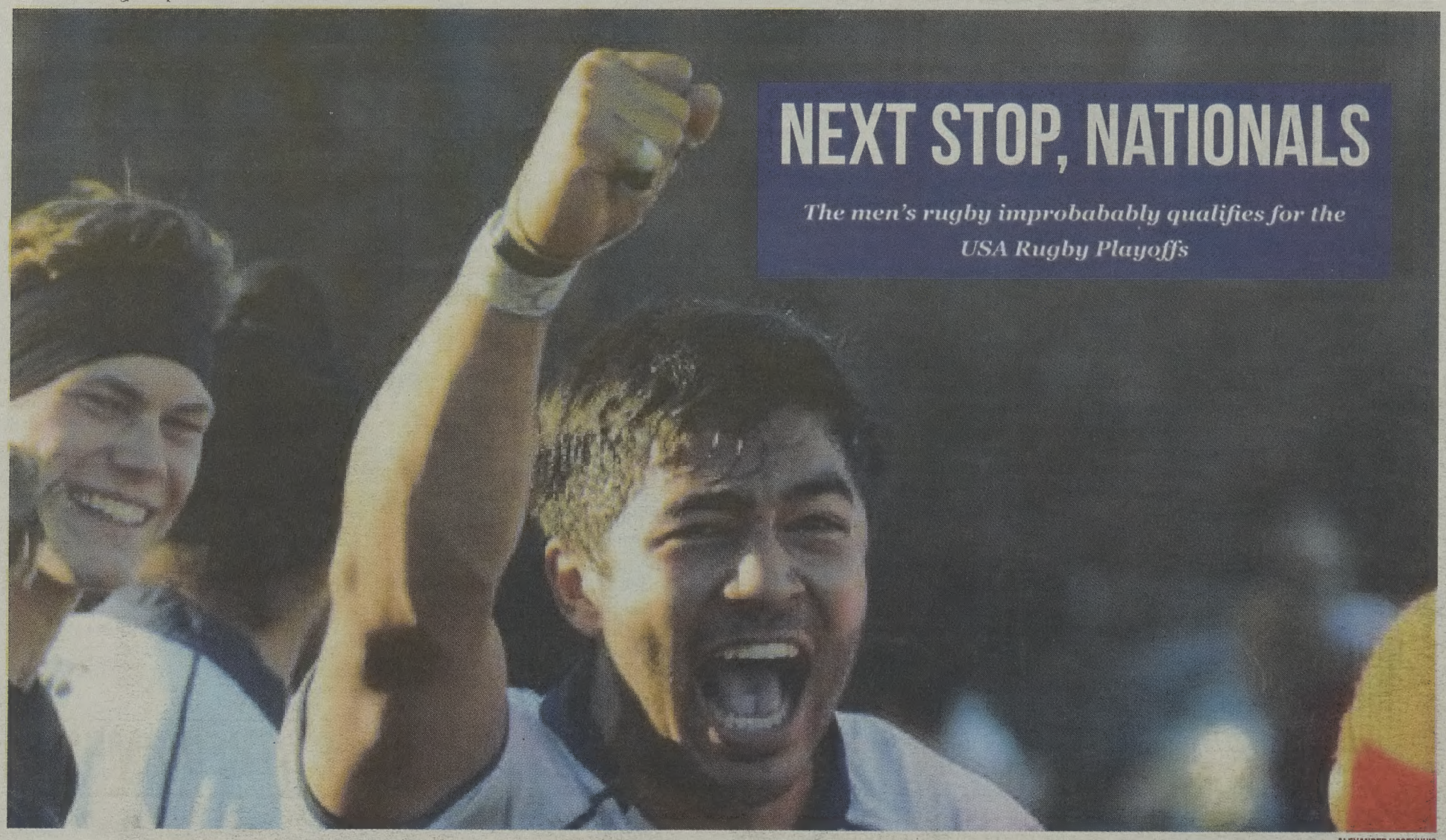
Some highlights in what was a historic season for Middlebury volleyball were the 400th career win for head coach Sarah Raunecker '92, AVCA All-Region postseason accolades for both Raffel and Staver and, of course, the NESCAC championship. With all but four players returning, the Panthers have a bright future.

Rugby Makes Miraculous Turnaround

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

the game at 19 with ten minutes remaining. Fortunately an interception by Kyle Dickey '17 started a drive that ended with a game-winning try that cemented a place for the Panthers at the Division II National Playoffs in Pittsburgh this coming weekend.

The Panthers' first game at Nationals take place on Saturday, Nov. 19 against the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, the best Division II rugby team in the country. Although Middlebury is not favored to win, overcoming the top-seeded team seems a possibility for a club that has shown determination in the face of long odds. When discussing the MCRC, rugby pundit Alex Goff succinctly stated, "you have to love a team that won't give up." Indeed, aspiring to greatness is a dream the players of the Middlebury College Rugby Club will not be giving up during this weekend and beyond.



NEXT STOP, NATIONALS

The men's rugby improbababbly qualifies for the USA Rugby Playoffs

ALEXANDER HOGENHUIS

RUGBY TO FACE TOP TEAM AT NATIONALS

By Alexander Hogenhuis
Contributing Writer

"I don't ask for greatness, only the opportunity to show that I am great," Jackson Yang '17 thundered over the hostile jeers of the home fans moments before kick off in the regional playoff between the Middlebury College Rugby Club (MCRC) and Plymouth State University on Saturday, Nov. 12. "Take today to prove to each other just how great you can be, prove just how good you are."

It was not the first time that he had delivered this speech. Three weeks earlier, Yang shared his drive and vision during the warmup before the MCRC's second game against the University of New Hampshire. At that point in the season, the MCRC was 1-4, a playoff berth was off the table and any speeches were less of an affirmation of the team's ability and more of a demand that the team play to its potential.

And potential they had. Coming into the season, Middlebury seemed to be a favorite to win the division. With the skilled duo of Jake Feury '16.5 and Yang, the blistering speed of USA Maccabi Team selection Adam Markun '17 and a mix of experienced veterans and young talent, the MCRC seemed poised to dominate the New England Collegiate Rugby Conference (NECRC) and secure a place in the Division II National Playoffs.

However, until the fateful game in New Hampshire, the team had fallen flat. A shocking 34-12 loss to Norwich University was followed by losses to The University of Rhode Island (URI) and The University of Vermont (UVM). The only consolation was a 59-3 victory against University of New Hampshire. Sitting one spot above last place, little else was left to be cherished. Club leaders began giving speeches about "playing for pride" and "not giving up on the season," clear signs that any sliver of hope was quickly fading.

Too often clichéd metaphors are used to describe the turning point in a season, but in the huddle before the second game at UNH, Jackson Yang's speech sparked a transformation in the hearts of his teammates. They were even more inspired to strive for glory, for streams of confetti, for golden trophies. More importantly they were inspired to play for each other and show just what they were capable of.

With this newly ignited fire in their hearts, the MCRC began a systematic breakdown of UNH that ended in a commanding 77-12 victory. The wide margin of this victory opened a slim possibility for a playoff opportunity for the Panthers. In order to do so, the Panthers would need to win their final rematches against UVM and URI. In another fortuitous turn of events, former head coach Ben Wells returned to the MCRC to provide invaluable insight into forging a championship team.

With newfound hope, the MCRC began a relentless build towards playoff contention. Despite losing to UVM by a mere two points in their last encounter, tries from Markun, Yang and Feury helped propel the Panthers to a hard-fought 19-12 victory.

After this phenomenal win, the MCRC set their sights on URI. In order to secure their playoff hopes, the Panthers were obligated to win by a margin of no less than eight points. The Panthers took to the field on a frigid Friday afternoon and rose to the occasion admirably, routing URI 42-13 and securing a playoff spot that once seemed impossible.

Given all they had occurred in the past three weeks to reach this game at Plymouth, Yang's speech took on a new light. "Proving to each other how great you can be" was no longer a statement of unjustified superiority. It was no longer a call for performance that reflected the team's true potential. It had become a reminder of the Herculean trials that the team had overcome to breathe new life into the season. Moreover, the speech exemplified the point that when the chips are down, good teammates don't play for themselves, they play for each other.

The MCRC had just two days to prepare for its playoff game against Plymouth State in New Hampshire. It quickly became clear that this would be one of the season's hardest challenges for the Panthers. After gaining an early 13-0 lead thanks to a try and two penalty kicks from Feury, Plymouth rallied and tied

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FIELD HOCKEY FALLS TO MESSIAH

By Christine Urquhart
Senior Writer

Last Sunday the mighty Middlebury field hockey team's season came to a close with a heartbreaking NCAA Quarterfinal loss to undefeated, top-ranked Messiah. It was a disappointing loss for the fourth-ranked Panthers who had played Messiah to a draw until the last ten minutes. Middlebury had advanced to the Quarterfinal contest the day before with a convincing 4-0 win over 15th-ranked Rochester.

Both games last weekend were low scoring, defensive battles played on Anderson Field at Messiah. In the Rochester game Middlebury's stifling defense limited the Rochester Yellow Jackets to just four shots on goal compared to Middlebury's twelve shots.

Annie Leonard '18 had an outstanding game scoring three of Middlebury's four goals. This was Leonard's third hat trick of the season; it was her 23rd goal of the season tying her with Heidi Miller '99 for the fifth most career goals in Middlebury history. The other goal was scored by Audrey Quirk '18 who scored on a rebound following a penalty. It was Quirks's fourth goal of the year.

The Panthers struck quickly when Quirk scored on just the second shot of the game. The game remained close for the next 20 minutes. Then Leonard struck, scoring her first goal. From that point forward it was all Leonard, who scored the last three goals of the game.

Emily Miller '17 was barely tested in goal saving the only Rochester shot on goal, which came in the first half. Miller recorded her seventh shutout of the season and 15th during her career. With this shutout, Miller is now ranked third on the program's career list.

Middlebury also finished with a 12-4 edge in shots and both teams took five penalty corners. With this win, the team advanced to the Quarterfinals where they met top-ranked Messiah.

Coming off Saturday's victory over Rochester the Panthers were fired up. They came out strong against Messiah and struck first when Leonard scored at the 12:44 mark. The score remained 1-0 for the next 13 minutes. The Falcons scored again five minutes later to give them a 2-1 edge over the Panthers at halftime.

Middlebury came out of halftime with vengeance. The Panthers tied the score eight minutes into the second half on a beautiful goal by Lauren Schweppe '18, her 12th of the season on assists from Quirk and stopper Grace Jennings '19. The assist from Jennings also extended her point-scoring streak to seven games.

The score remained tied until the last ten minutes when the Panthers gave up two goals leading to a final score of four. The Panthers drew 14 more fouls than Messiah and were outshot 15 to 7 by the victors. Goalie Heidi Miller, who kept the contest tight, had eight saves.

Messiah upped its winning streak to 20-straight games and will head to the final four next weekend to play against Babson.

Middlebury's final record was 15-5. The reigning champs have a lot to be proud of.

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